

HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
1991



Olcott Library and Research Center
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN AMERICA
WHEATON, ILLINOIS 60189-0270

Published by
THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR
MADRAS 600 020, INDIA

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Presidential Address

To the 116th Annual Convention of The Theosophical Society
Adyar, 26 December 1991

We are meeting once again as members of the worldwide theosophical brotherhood. At every Convention we have a wonderful opportunity to deepen this sense of brotherhood with all living beings upon the earth, including our much ill-treated younger brothers in the animal and plant kingdoms. While we are at Adyar, a centre made sacred by the presence of many theosophical elders, including the Founders, we have the finest possible environment to realize the sublime truth that the same eternal life animates and inspires every being, however humble be the form which encases it. Our Conventions also provide the opportunity to explore with ever deeper understanding the essential teachings of Theosophy, and re-dedicate ourselves to the service of this suffering world. With the hope that this week will prove to be a time of spiritual refreshment, new understanding, and fresh inspiration to live a life of brotherhood, I declare this Convention open, and very cordially welcome all of you here. Let us rise and seek the blessing of the Holy Ones who are the Guardians of Humanity, ever pouring out their power and love to uplift our world.

May Those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with Their help and guidance this Society founded to be a channel for Their work. May They inspire it with Their wisdom, strengthen it with Their power and energize it with Their activity.

This year 1991, the hundredth after HPB's passing, was named International HPB Year, and brought special remembrance of her and her work. The knowledge she gave to the world is proving to be even more relevant than a century ago for coping with the acute problems humanity is

confronting now. As Mr Sri Ram said in his Presidential Address in 1972:

It is not a little insignificant that the development and diffusion of theosophical thought beginning with the impetus given by the Founders and the re-proclamation of the Ageless Wisdom in its modern form by HPB has

been largely coincident with the extraordinary changes that have marked this century, including the revolutionary advances of science. There are indications in many places in theosophical literature and in the events of the early history of the Society to show that the movement was launched *precisely in view of the changes to come.* (italics mine)

Delivering the powerful series of lectures printed in 1909 under the title *The Changing World*, Dr Besant already referred to the deadlocks in every field of human activity. She said:

On every side you will see the signs of a closing age; thoughts which have reached a point beyond which they cannot continue on the old lines and in the old methods.

More than half a century later, in the course of the aforementioned address, Mr Sri Ram pointed out that conditions in the world were coming to a climax. That climax has been slow in coming. It is, in fact, still gathering force all the time, and pushing humanity beyond deadlocks to a dead end. Moving according to cyclic law, we are approaching a nadir beyond which there is nowhere to go, unless a turn is made in a different direction. Old lines of thought must be abandoned, and old methods of reaction cast aside. The search for experience of material pleasures, and illusions regarding ways of achieving prosperity and happiness, have brought humanity inexorably to the point where the repercussions are fraught with so great a danger that a halt must be made. Trying to push further in the same direction is now tantamount to insanity. Deadlocks

cannot be broken, nor the advancing crisis resolved, by minds which are rigidly set in a groove of pleasure-seeking and self-promotion.

Unfortunately, the human being rarely looks at the course of his life intelligently, he seldom learns to find his spiritual bearings, unless he is arrested in his unreflecting and headlong pursuits by some shocking experiences. It is only when faced with an acutely critical condition and when we come to a dead end that we become a little alert. Even then there is a strong tendency not to examine the underlying causes behind the crisis, and a reluctance to take comprehensive stock of the situation, without which the remedies chosen are neither effective nor lasting.

Most people chase immediate satisfaction and profit rather than look ahead to grasp the cumulative impact of a series of apparently small things. Such short-sightedness results in their being confronted with a grave problem, as when a person who persistently ignores the rules of diet through many years and is bent on pleasing his taste, all of a sudden faces the result of his negligence in a serious health condition. Wise after the event, he begins to realize that he ought to have given attention daily to the seemingly harmless things.

Many trickles of water, little rivulets and streams feed the rivers which join together to become a mighty rush of water that can spell utter disaster. Similarly, numerous thoughts of a selfish kind, appearing as insignificant as trickles of water, persistent desire to outdo others, the unchecked selfish

tendencies of the mind—these gather into an uncontrollable force and break out from time to time in virulent form. A new phase will only begin when the converging force of our daily lives and behaviour takes on a beneficent quality, free of all destructive elements. Unless a change takes place at a fundamental level in human thought and behaviour, the alternative is Armageddon.

The Gulf War stirred the world into a state of alert for a time and there was some realization of the suicidal folly of warfare in a nuclear age. That war came to an end, but the prospect of more disastrous wars still looms ominously before the world, for there is a mad persistence in weapons production and intense competition to make profit by selling death. A number of countries are in the race to produce nuclear bombs. A really serious debate on the implications of manufacturing and marketing these is conspicuous by its absence. The peoples of the world by and large do not care, being too preoccupied with local issues and as blind as the proverbial ostrich burying its head in the sand.

Why are we human beings so persistent in following courses which harm us and our mother earth too? Why are we madly adding to our possessions and wealth, rapidly denuding the earth of the resources which we ourselves will need? The craze for more and more possessions leads to unrestricted manufacture of unnecessary goods. This we know has already poisoned our planet to an alarming extent, depleted its forests,

torn the ozone layer and increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. We know it, and yet we go on blindly towards the edge of the environmental precipice.

Why do we tolerate death by starvation of huge numbers of people? Why are we indifferent to the miserable lot of millions of our fellow human beings? We know there are people who are undernourished from birth to death, while enormous wastage of food, money and other resources goes on all the time. We also know that poverty breeds crime, and that in areas of economic insecurity corruption is endemic, and that people who are frustrated will one day become violent. All of us will be obliged to endure the impact in the long run. Yet we hardly pay attention. Why don't we change our ways and proceed in a new direction?

The answer is that we have cultivated wrong lines of thought and believe that private good is more important than the larger welfare. We have wrong ideas about our place in the planetary and cosmic scheme, of our past and of our future as pilgrims on the evolutionary path. The teachings of Theosophy are invaluable for bringing about a radical change because they offer the perspective which can make every individual know what is truly beneficial to himself and to all his fellow creatures. It makes him think and act sanely. Let us listen again to what Annie Besant said in 1909:

Without self-sacrifice no society is secure; without self-surrender of the small to the great, of the individual to

the social self, there is no possibility of national life, no stability in the social system....The greatest utility for the nation is that which understands the relationship between the part and the whole, and that is only taught by religion which knows the larger Self, which knits man to the whole, makes him realize relationships, makes him know he is not a creature of one little globe, but a creature of the universe; that he is a cosmic life and not a planetary. That is learned by religion only, and by the deathless immortality of the divine Spirit in man; without that no morality will endure.

We can substitute the word 'Theosophy' for 'religion' here, for the meaning of religion has been woefully misunderstood through the centuries. Instead of helping human beings to realize themselves as part of a greater Self, instead of aiding them to surrender the small personal desires to the larger good of humanity, instead of teaching the truth of the origin of the individual in the unbroken whole, the Source of all, religion so called has become an instrument of exploitation and an excuse for bigoted fanatics to divide and hurt others.

It may be that HPB foresaw that in a world united at the outer level by technological advancement it is vitally important to understand the true meaning of religion. She spoke therefore about the Wisdom Religion which is not the property of any one denomination, which builds no barriers, propagates no dogmas and indulges in no proselytization, but is the heritage of all humanity. It is the religion of unity and love, which rejects everything in the conventional religions that is cruel, empty, superstitious and

hypocritical. If true Religion has an enemy, it is ignorance or *avidyā*, which drives people into wrong ways.

True religion can never be in opposition to science, for both seek the truth. Therefore it is not irrelevant in the scientific age. Only when science, contrary to itself, becomes dogmatic and makes unfounded assertions about things that do not pertain to its domain, it must be refuted. As HPB pointed out, science can collect, classify and generalize upon phenomena; but the occultist probes the inmost secrets of Nature by transcending the narrow limitations of sense. His consciousness plumbs the region of noumena where the calculations of the analytical mind, its limited reasonings and conclusions have no place or relevance. If religion such as she advocated is understood and practised, the welfare of the world would be assured, for humanity would be armed with wisdom.

Our world today is torn by strife and dissension. Close neighbours are pouncing on each others' throats, as for example in Yugoslavia, because of racial hatred. Religious bigotry, taking the shape of fundamentalism, is accentuating differences and promoting ill-will and violence. Consumerism is a virulent fever, a symptom that people are sick with desire. Consumerism is, in fact, the cult of the modern world, with millions of votaries wholly absorbed by the glitter of luxury and amusement. Violence is spreading; drug addiction and alcoholism are pervasive; delinquency, broken homes and degrading sensuality are common symptoms of our decadent civilization,

in which moral considerations are too often thrown without scruple to the winds, in favour of selfish interests.

For this situation, the only sovereign remedy is a non-denominational religious teaching, rooted in a unitary perspective, leading to subjugation of selfish impulses by a deep faith in universal brotherhood. Theosophy is that dynamic remedy. Our comprehension of it must activate a liberating, all-inclusive, loving religious sense, and thus lay the corner-stone for the future faith of the world.

The International HPB year was commemorated in various ways in almost all the Sections. Many of the lodges specially studied her works and held seminars and conferences centred around her life and mission. Special issues of several magazines were brought out in her honour, chief among them being the May issue of *The Theosophist* comprising articles from all over the world, including one from Mrs Grace F. Knoche, Leader of the Pasadena Theosophical Society.

One of the important events of the year was the printing at our Vasanta Press of *The Secret Doctrine* in the Russian translation of Mrs Helena Roerich. Donations came from many Sections and members, helping to cover the cost of the 5,000 copies which were published by TPH, Adyar, in record time and safely despatched to Moscow after overcoming various hurdles.

Mr Curt Berg, Chairman of the European Federation, was invited by

the Association 'Peace through Culture' to visit Moscow in February. On this occasion, the 'Friends of HPB' Society was inaugurated by Mr Berg, with participants from many parts of the Soviet Union. An exhibition about HPB was also opened at the time in the All-Union State Library of Foreign Literature. A public meeting addressed by Mr Berg had an overflowing audience.

In May, Mrs Kirsti Elo, General Secretary of the Finnish Section, was invited for the White Lotus Day celebration in Moscow, which took place in HPB's home country after many decades. Mrs Elo's interview on television was broadcast to an extensive audience. She also lectured in Estonia, thus re-introducing Theosophy to this Baltic state.

In September, Mr Curt Berg and I were again invited by 'Peace through Culture', especially for a three-day conference in Dnepropetrovsk (formerly Ekaterinoslav), the birthplace of HPB in the Ukraine. On 12 September, a memorial plaque was fixed on the house where HPB was born, and I was asked to unveil it after the Deputy Mayor of the town had announced that the street would be named after Mme Blavatsky. The Deputy Mayor also said that the city would acquire the house and after carrying out renovations, establish an HPB museum in it. At a function on 13 September in the Lenin Library in Moscow, the first copies of *The Secret Doctrine* in Russian sent from Adyar were donated to the Lenin Library and some other libraries at a function organized by 'Peace through Culture'. Since then several hundred

copies of the book have been donated to libraries in Russia as well as in other Republics such as Moldavia, Uzbekistan and Armenia, and in the Baltic countries. An exhibition on HPB was open to the public in the Lenin Library, which possesses a rare collection of material connected with HPB, presented by her niece to the library just before the Communist Revolution broke out. This collection was providentially preserved throughout the years of regimentation, as a result of having been stored in the basement of this enormous library.

Members of the Friends of HPB Society who bought copies of *The Secret Doctrine* have been provided with a 'home task' in the form of a questionnaire to answer about Theosophy and the Theosophical Society. The officers of Peace through Culture are thus testing to some extent the suitability of the large numbers of people who are ready to associate themselves with the TS without understanding what it stands for or having a grasp of the elements of Theosophy.

A 'Russian Theosophical Society' was formed and registered in Moscow without prior information being sent to us. It consists of persons who have not become members of our TS, and its groups have not been chartered as lodges. Their Rules also have not been submitted to our International Headquarters, but we were told that they are based on the Rules of the TS in Russia before it was closed down in 1918. This self-styled TS in Russia is, for the reasons stated, not an official part of our Society, at least for the

present. Other organizations have also sprung up calling themselves the 'TS in the USSR' and so forth, each with its own aims and concepts, not necessarily corresponding to ours.

The new found freedom of the peoples of the former Soviet Union, has resulted in an exuberant interest, not only for a new philosophy, but also for novel experiences through psychic communications, and an assortment of cults. It is therefore necessary to prepare those who apply for membership of the Theosophical Society in order to ensure that the future work of the TS in this part of the world will be conducted with some understanding of what the Society and Theosophy are.

The TS in Hungary has also been registered with the authorities, comprising a certain number of people who had been previously enrolled as Fellows at Large. Miss Joy Mills, Mr and Mrs Aelisso Raven and some others have visited Budapest and talked to them. The Dutch Section has provided the means for Mr Laszlo Reicher, who is the chief worker in Hungary, to purchase an apartment for the TS work. In Czechoslovakia also, a beginning has been made.

A fuller report about the International HPB Year will appear in *The Theosophist*. It has been a year of new beginnings and renewed interest in the writings of HPB. Several teams have been interested in making films or video films about her life. Some of them have already been to Adyar to photograph her Indian home and the material available in our Archives. An English team is now engaged in a

similar task with the encouragement of the English Section and the Blavatsky Trust.

The European Congress, which takes place once in three years, was held in July in Arolsen, Germany, with Miss Joy Mills as the guest of honour. A special feature of the Congress was the participation of some invitees from Eastern Europe. The German Section also organized a Theosophical Forum in May at Wuppertal, formerly called Elberfeld, where HPB stayed with the Gebhard family. Here too it is proposed to place a commemorative plaque on the house after renovation. Efforts are being made to establish contacts with the public in the former East Germany.

The Austrian Section lost two of its old and dedicated members, namely Dr Norbert Lauppert and Mr Julius Fleischanderl. Dr Lauppert was General Secretary of the Section for many years and founded Adyar Verlag, the German Theosophical Publishing House. His translations of theosophical books and fine lectures in German have been much admired. Mr Fleischanderl was actively connected with the Theosophical Order of Service and several allied activities.

The three lodges in Slovenia and a group in Zagreb, Croatia, have continued their work despite the disturbed conditions. But recently, meetings in Zagreb came to a stop when the conflict grew more violent. Miss Mary Anderson has been regularly visiting these and other lodges and groups in Europe, particularly in the German-speaking area.

The Appeal made by the TS in

Denmark before the Superior Court of Justice is still pending. Up to now the Presidential Representative has had no access to records, funds, etc. Mr Curt Berg, Mrs Barbro Melander and I had the pleasure of meeting him and other members in September to discuss the future work in the country. In Sweden, Finland and Norway regular activity goes on.

The Italian Section's membership is on the increase. Their Convention held in Castrocaro was dedicated to HPB's teachings and had Mme Danielle Audoin as the guest speaker. Two biographical books about HPB were published by non-theosophical bookshops. A seminar on 'Human Regeneration' took place at Torino in March, under the auspices of the European Federation, conducted by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Federation.

The French Section continues to lose members, but three new lodges were formed. The General Secretary, Mme Françoise Caracostea, reports that the members in the Congo are attempting to obtain official recognition for their lodges.

The General Secretary for Portugal says that almost all the lodges studied HPB's works. Some young and enthusiastic members have begun to help the work. The circulation of the Spanish magazine *Sophia* is steadily increasing. The Section printed *An Introduction to Yoga* by Annie Besant as a gift for Hungary, and organized a seminar on the subject of 'From Inner to Outer Transformation', conducted by Miss Joy Mills, for which about fifty members gathered near Barcelona.

The Belgian Section has a small membership but carries on steadily. In Holland too, a book about HPB was published by a non-theosophical bookshop. Miss Joy Mills was the Director of a second international seminar held at the Naarden Centre, and her lectures have been published. The Dutch Section also published the lectures and discussions of the previous year under the title *Human Regeneration*.

The lodges in Ireland, both North and South, received several visiting lecturers. The Scottish Section's programmes especially emphasized the work of HPB. At the English headquarters, special meetings in honour of HPB were held for five days. There were residential weekends at Tekels Park and the annual summer school took place at Nottingham.

Turning to another part of the world, mention may be made of the centenary of the Adelaide Lodge which was commemorated along with the Australian Convention. Blavatsky Lodge, Sydney, organized functions to mark one hundred years of Theosophy in Sydney. Its fine building on Kent Street, where the Section Headquarters is also situated, was dedicated and officially opened by the International President. Mr and Mrs Ed Abdill from New York and Mr Hugh Dixon from New Zealand toured the country and also New Zealand. In New Zealand two seminars on meditation were organized with Mr John Cooper as the chief speaker.

The Philippine Section's bookstore is reported to be doing very well, and a branch has been opened in Naga city.

There is a prospect of setting up two other branches in the near future. The *Theosophical Digest* which they publish, enjoys much popularity. The work of the Theosophical Order of Service is also expanding in the country, and they were active in helping victims of the volcanic eruption. The Indonesian Section had its annual Convention in a mountain village in East Java with about ninety participants. The General Secretary says that Medan Lodge is trying to interest younger people through a varied programme of lectures, discussions, music, poetry reading and so forth, in gatherings quite unlike the usual lodge meetings.

It was a memorable year for the Indian Section at whose headquarters the last Convention was held. The Besant Lecture delivered by H. H. the Dalai Lama attracted a huge number of people. He released the publication entitled *In Honour of Dr Annie Besant* containing Besant Lectures delivered by eminent persons, including the present President of India, Mr R. Venkataraman, and Mrs Indira Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India. The book highlights the lofty ideals which characterized Indian civilization and also the great reverence and love in which Annie Besant was held by people in many walks of life. The membership of the Section has risen to about 10,600. Among those whom the Section lost during the year was Miss Tehmina Wadia, who was an educationist and a pillar of the Society in Bombay.

The report from Sri Lanka says that lodges outside the war zone have been

working fairly normally. It is proposed to strengthen this Section by arranging for lecturers to go over from India. In Pakistan the main activity continues to be centred in Karachi. The Presidential Representative, Mrs Gool Minwalla, writes that for political reasons it is difficult to invite speakers from India. Here also, the Theosophical Order of Service is active.

In the American Section, after many years the annual convention and summer conference were held at 'Olcott', the Section's headquarters at Wheaton. 'Olcott' may be the site of some activities connected with the World Parliament of Religions which will take place from 28 August to 5 September 1993, with the Dalai Lama as the keynote speaker. The TS in America is a co-sponsor of the Parliament. The Publishing House had increased sales and the number of subscribers to *Quest* magazine is on the increase. The report from Canada mentions memorial meetings held by lodges to pay tribute to HPB.

The Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan, visited Brazil, and gave a series of lectures in the capital Brasilia. The General Secretary reports that publishing activity is increasing. Books were displayed whenever lectures were given, as a result of which many enquiries were received, and several new study groups have been formed in different cities. The Vice-President of the Section, Mr Ricardo Lindemann has lectured extensively in the Latin American area. Work in Argentina has also been satisfactory. Most of the lodges took up HPB's books for study. The Section

participated in a book-fair, and their stand attracted large numbers of people. Thirty thousand leaflets were distributed on this occasion. Their correspondence course is sent to different parts of the country, and to persons in jail.

In Chile three theosophical booklets were printed and a special HPB number of their bulletin was brought out. In the Presidential Agencies of Venezuela, Bolivia and Peru, it is reported that work is going on satisfactorily. A new lodge has been formed in Venezuela, named after Annie Besant. In Cuba the Convention was dedicated to HPB, and all the theosophical festivals were celebrated. Mr Alfredo Puig was invited to lecture in various South American countries. In Puerto Rico lodges are active, and Prof. Miguel Charneco continues to help the lodge in Dominica by his visits and lectures.

In Kenya, *The Theosophist* is distributed to twenty libraries all over the country. Two seminars on HPB were held in Kenya and Tanzania. The Theosophical Order of Service is doing good work. The South African Section is steadfastly carrying on, in spite of difficulties. The four main lodges celebrated the HPB centenary along with the Pasadena group.

The English-speaking lodges in West Africa, which were organized into a Regional Association twenty-one years ago, now form the West African Section of the TS, having received a Charter on 23 January 1991. A TS Workers Course was organized for the first time to increase the effectiveness of the lodges. *At the Feet of the Master* has

been translated into Akan Twi, the most widely spoken language in Ghana. The General Secretary made extensive tours in Ghana and Nigeria, and a TS bookshop company was registered.

The three lodges in Japan are continuing their activity. The Secretary of the Seoul Lodge, Mr William Chaye, visited Adyar and the contact was very useful. In Singapore, Tel Aviv and a few other places where also there are isolated lodges, there is no lessening of interest. There is a project to carry Theosophy from Singapore to nearby towns.

In quick succession, several internationally known Theosophists living in the United States passed on. Mr James S. Perkins was Vice-President of the Society from 1961 to 1974, before which he was National President of the American Section. Later, he was in charge of the Manor Centre in Sydney, before retiring to the Taormina theosophical community in Ojai. He was known to members all over the world as a lecturer, writer and artist. Mrs Virginia Hanson too was a much admired Theosophist and writer, who was awarded the Subba Row medal. Both 'Olcott' and the Krotona Centre in Ojai benefited much from having her for many years. Mr Felix Layton, another well-known member of the American Section was, with his wife Mrs Eunice Layton, responsible during several years for the 'Spotlight' programme meant to extend the field of Theosophy. Both of them also lectured widely in South America, Australia and New Zealand, and stayed in Adyar for a time, where Mr Layton did fine work as

Principal of the Olcott Memorial School. For the last few years of his life he was Resident Head of the Krotona Centre. Mrs Ann Kerr Greene was Assistant Recording Secretary at Adyar for some years, and before that, National Secretary of the American Section. She was also Vice-President of the Krotona Centre. The dedication and theosophical quality of such lives are a continual source of inspiration to others.

My travels this year took me to all the major cities of Australia, after the National Convention held in Adelaide ended. I also spent some days in the Manor Centre at Sydney, which has been associated very intimately with many theosophical activities in Australia. I visited in addition some lodges in Indonesia and New Zealand and stopped over in Singapore to speak with Mr K. K. Tan, the Presidential Representative, about expansion of work in that area. Later in the year I was at the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden and also at Krotona before proceeding to Copenhagen and Russia. The Vice-President was the Guest of Honour at several conferences in India and also conducted some study programmes.

Both the sessions of the School of the Wisdom at Adyar were extremely well attended. Dr Ravi Ravindra of the Dalhousie University in Canada was the Director from January to March, speaking on 'The Essential Unity of the Higher Religions'. His classes and discussions evoked much enthusiasm among the forty or so students who came from a number of different countries. From October to December,

Mr Rohit Mehta has been the Director, his theme being 'The Name and the Nameless—The Language of Communication'. During this session also the number of students was more than forty, and represented many countries.

The Adyar Library is now in a much better position financially, but could benefit from having on its staff some well qualified and dedicated members to assist with the administration, cataloguing and so forth. Its programme of publications continues; scholars from all over the world regularly avail of its facilities.

The Theosophical Publishing House also did well. Its main task during the year was to bring out the Russian *Secret Doctrine*, as already mentioned, as well as an Indian edition of *Human Regeneration*. The reprinting of various books which are in continual demand goes on all the time.

Major improvements have been made in the premises used by the Social Welfare Centre and the work has started to become more effective. During the coming year we expect some development to take place. As reported last year, due to the generosity of Mrs Alice Eichenberger of Geneva, four new class-rooms were built for the Olcott Memorial School's Craft Centre. A programme of replacing the thatched roofs of class-rooms, which deteriorate easily, with more permanent material has been undertaken.

The Headquarters Hall, which is in part a century and in another part about two centuries old, has been

renovated. Various other important and essential maintenance and renewal works were carried out at Adyar. The main estate is no more dependent on overhead electrical wires for supply, since almost all lines have been put underground.

I am happy to say that a small influx of new workers, several of them young, coming from different Sections as volunteers, has added much to the strength and vitality of our International Headquarters. We still need qualified and dedicated volunteers in some of our departments, particularly for service in the Archives, Library and TPH. As contacts between International Headquarters and the lodges and Sections everywhere are strengthened, I trust that there will always be an adequate number of workers to carry on the work at Adyar, chosen as International Headquarters by HPB and HSO, a place where they both lived and which they loved. Their memory and influence, as well as that of other distinguished Theosophists who were associated with them or succeeded them, linger here all the time. The centre and the circumference are inseparably linked with each other. It is important to maintain the strength of the Centre and let its Power and Blessing radiate all over the world. It is also important to maintain vitality in all areas of the global work. Let us never regard any one part of the work as of less importance than another. Together we must stand for the Light and Love that the world needs.

RADHA BURNIER

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31-3-1991

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

AND

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 1991

15-10-1991

A. S. S. S.

Head Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31-3-1991

Rs. 100,052 were spent on charitable work this year and on propagation of Theosophy Rs. 3,312,057. These have been financed from current income and other funds.

The revenue of the Society this year shows an excess of Rs. 11,628 over the expenditure against Rs. 64,641 last year.

As for departments, the following may be noted:—

The Adyar Library and Research Centre—The net cost of running the Adyar Library during the year was Rs. 192,844 against Rs. 11,959 of the previous year, as the interest earned on the Adyar Library Endowment Fund was not drawn upon. Consideration is being given to enhancing the fund by adding to it the interest for the next few years to enable the library to initiate development projects.

Garden Department—The Cultivation Account shows a gross return of almost the same amount as last year. However, there is a net deficit of Rs. 64,855 as against Rs. 36,878 in the preceding year. This is mainly due to increase in general maintenance expenditure.

Maintenance Department—The total amount spent on maintaining the estate during this year amounted to Rs. 1,902,081 against Rs. 1,398,451 during last year. The cost of repairs and maintenance of the buildings etc. in the estate which are mostly old is substantial.

The Theosophical Publishing House has shown a surplus of Rs. 546,144 for this year. The surplus last year was Rs. 445,407.

The Vasanta Press has shown a surplus of Rs. 3,685 as against a deficit of Rs. 53,835 last year. This was due to increase in printing receipts.

Funds—The Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund has during this year increased from Rs. 14,835,604 to Rs. 15,397,652, the Adyar Library Endowment Fund from Rs. 1,899,586 to Rs. 2,361,409 and the Education Endowment Fund from Rs. 2,544,822 to Rs. 3,119,279.

The overall financial position continues to be satisfactory.

19-10-1991

A. SABRY
Hony. Treasurer

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED

(From 1 April 1990 to 31 March 1991)

Name of the Section				1989-90	1990-91
				Rs.	Rs.
The Theosophical Society in	Africa East and Central	...	...	—	—
"	Africa South	...	...	846	—
"	Africa West	...	...	—	1,342
"	America Central	...	...	80	—
"	Argentina	...	...	11,260	—
"	Australia	...	...	38,642	45,709
"	Austria	...	...	—	7,882
"	Belgium	...	...	9,705	12,810
"	Bolivia	...	...	1,632	179
"	Brazil	...	...	11,697	—
"	Canada	...	...	2,535	4,815
"	Chile	...	...	215	1,724
"	Colombia	...	...	—	1,400
"	Cuba	...	...	—	—
"	Denmark	...	...	—	—
"	England	...	...	—	—
"	Finland	...	...	14,176	90
"	France	...	...	—	116,266
"	Germany	...	...	19,845	—
"	Iceland	...	...	5,159	7,554
"	India	...	...	29,200	12,123
"	Ireland North	...	...	84	698
"	Ireland	...	...	1,448	1,793
"	Italy	...	...	43,279	41,165
"	Mexico	...	...	2,737	7,190
"	Netherlands	...	...	90,227	41,236
"	New Zealand	...	...	—	—
"	Norway	...	...	5,885	4,497
"	Pakistan	...	...	—	—
"	Peru	...	...	837	275
"	Philippines	...	...	4,078	5,749
"	Portugal	...	...	—	1,209
"	Puerto Rico	...	...	—	3,879
"	Scotland	...	...	—	899
"	Spain	...	...	11,587	10,237
"	Sweden	...	...	4,439	—
"	Switzerland	...	...	—	11,081
"	U.S.A.	...	...	172,463	192,024
"	Uruguay	...	...	3,373	4,387
"	Venezuela	...	...	836	895
"	Wales	...	...	733	—
"	Yugoslavia	...	...	—	1,780
Lodges attached to Adyar	...	...	...	11,315	12,133
Fellows at large	...	...	...	2,470	1,751
				500,783	554,772

AND DOES RECEIVED

LIABILITIES

In the opinion of the Committee the Current Assets, Loans and Advances are approximately of the value stated if realized in the ordinary course of transacting the affairs of the Society and the Provision made in the accounts for all known liabilities is adequate.

A. SABRY

A. SABRY
Hony. Treasurer

A. SABRY
Hony. Treasurer

This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our Report of even date.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31-3-1990	EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31-3-1991		
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	Departments (Net Expenditure)			
12,522	Bhojanasala	...	30,067	
36,878	Garden	...	64,855	
35,128	Leadbeater Chambers	...	27,279	
1,115,257	Maintenance	...	1,576,290	1,698,491
	Charitable Work			
4,836	Animal Welfare	...	7,789	
287,682	Education	...	—	
1,400	Distress Relief	...	8,450	
31,624	Free Dispensary	...	30,063	
4,038	Medical Treatment	...	7,077	
9,240	School Fees and Books	...	9,026	
15,118	Social Welfare work	...	34,000	
9,330	Miscellaneous	...	3,647	
1,563,053			100,052	
(240,197)	Less: Govt. of India Grant utilized for school	...	—	
(44,543)	Transfer from Other Funds	...	69,989	30,063
1,278,313				
	Propagation of Theosophy:			
	Adyar Library			
163,727	Publication Expenses	111,337		
257,424	Other Expenses	228,133	339,470	
	The Theosophical Publishing House			
656,431	Trading Expenses	970,758		
438,771	Other Expenses	488,622	1,459,380	
	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter		231,255	
	The Vasanta Press			
738,647	Production expenses	862,929		
299,611	Other expenses	302,255	1,165,184	
9,552	School of Wisdom	...	66,256	
35,895	T.S. Workers' Training Camp	...	5,886	
4,540	Information and Public Relations	...	760	
847	Non-English Publications	...	56	
7,363	Archives and Museums	...	17,489	
4,029	Theosophy Science Centre	...	26,321	
4,086,462			3,312,057	
(36,742)	Less: Transfer from Other Funds	...	5,942	3,306,115
4,049,720				
	International Offices			
42,014	President and Vice-President	...	55,120	
128,417	Treasurer	...	111,570	
46,009	Secretary	...	49,372	216,062
	Establishment			
46,835	Headquarters	...	58,331	
18,264	General Manager's Office	...	21,499	
112,534	Movable Properties Department	...	107,763	
27,265	Sanitary Department	...	42,677	
300,435	Security Department	...	279,820	510,090
4,771,493		c/o		5,760,821

SOCIETY, ADYAR, MADRAS 600 020

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1991

Year ended 31-3-1990		INCOME		Year ended 31-3-1991	
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	Propagation of Theosophy				
	Adyar Library				
106,817	Publication Account Income	...	90,549		
302,374	Other Income	...	56,078		
—				146,627	
	The Theosophical Publishing House				
1,138,995	Trading Account Receipts	..	1,595,586		
401,614	Other Income	...	409,938		
	Adjustments Relating to Prior Year	...	2,705		
				2,008,229	
176,896	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter	...			
				241,995	
	The Vasanta Press				
979,575	Production Account Receipts	...	1,166,301		
4,849	Other Income	...	2,568		
				1,168,869	
—	Theosophy Science Centre	...		30,992	
386,118	General Donations	...			3,596,712
1,165,334	Interest and Dividends	...			277,282
500,783	Membership Fees and Dues	...			1,820,277
60,000	Licence Fees	...			554,772
173,689	Quarters Maintenance	...			79,000
6,860	Income from Surat Property	...			144,794
21,927	Miscellaneous Receipts	...			7,175
320	Exchange Difference	...			86,824
					—
5,426,151					
		C.F.			6,566,836

THE THEOSOPHICAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31-3-1990	EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31-3-1991
Rs.		Rs. Rs.
4,771,493	b/f	5,760,821
	Other Expenses	
3,208	Insurance Premium	9,173
52,820	Legal, Audit Fees and Court Expenses	61,750
34,925	Rates and Taxes	23,174
1,859	Bank charges	439
433,025	Depreciation	621,984
26,585	Motor Car Expenses	30,938
37,595	Miscellaneous	46,055
—	Exchange difference	874
64,641	Surplus transferred to General Fund	794,387
		11,628
5,426,151		6,566,836

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1991

FRASER & ROSS Chartered Accountants	A. SABRY Hony. Treasurer
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THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31-3-1993

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	Rs.		Rs.
Departments (Net Expenditure)			
Bhojanasala ...	22,600	Garden ...	2,500
Leadbeater Chambers ...	34,000	Adyar Library & Research Centre ...	172,500
Maintenance ...	1,571,000	Theosophical Publishing House	627,500
Charitable Works		The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter ...	238,710
Animal Welfare ...	100,000	Donations ...	300,000
Education ...	100,000	Interest Receipts ...	2,535,000
H.P.B. Memorial Relief ...	50,000	Membership Fees and Dues ...	550,000
Free Dispensary ...	32,500	Licence Fees ...	72,000
Medical Treatment ...	8,000	Quarters Maintenance ...	200,000
School Fees and Books ...	30,000	Income from Properties outside Adyar ...	7,500
Social Welfare Work ...	100,000	Miscellaneous Receipts ...	30,000
H.P.B. Hostel ...	10,000	Excess of Expenditure over Income ...	120,000
Propagation of Theosophy			
Adyar Library & Research Centre ...	307,000		
Theosophical Publishing House	342,700		
The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter ...	252,100		
The Vasanta Press ...	25,000		
School of the Wisdom ...	30,000		
Workers Training Camp ...	7,000		
Information and Public Relations ...	10,000		
Archives and Museum ...	50,000		
Theosophy Science Centre ...	50,000		
International Offices			
President and Vice-President ...	59,800		
Treasurer ...	154,500		
Secretary ...	67,200		
Establishment			
Headquarters ...	61,700		
General Manager's Office ...	27,200		
Movable Properties Department ...	101,000		
Sanitary Department ...	62,900		
Security Department ...	345,400		
Other Expenses			
Insurance Premium ...	17,500		
Legal Expenses ...	35,000		
Audit Fees ...	35,000		
Taxes ...	38,000		
Bank Charges ...	610		
Depreciation ...	600,000		
Car Repairs ...	58,000		
Miscellaneous ...	60,000		
	<u>4,855,710</u>		<u>4,855,710</u>

INDIA

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 1991

Executive Committee:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs Radha Burnier | <i>President</i> |
| 2. Mr Surendra Narayan | <i>Vice-President</i> |
| 3. Dr Hugh Gray | <i>Secretary</i> |
| 4. Mr A. Sabry | <i>Treasurer</i> |
| 5. Mrs Norma Y. Sastry | <i>General Council Member</i> |
| 6. Mr S. S. Varma | " " |
| 7. Mr R. Gopalaratnam | " " |
| 8. Mr K. Visvanathan | |
| 9. Mr D. K. Govindaraj | |
| 10. Mr Ch. Sankar Rao | |

General Manager; Mr D. K. Govindaraj

Adyar Library; Director: Dr K. K. Raja

Librarian: Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam

Bhojanasala: Mr M. K. Natarajan

Bookshop: Mr C. Seshadri

Garden: Mr P. S. Venkataraman

Information: Mr C. Seshadri

Leadbeater Chambers: Miss G. Sundari

Maintenance: Mr Brian Milne

Medical and Sanitary: Dr S. V. Joseph

Movable Properties: Mr S. M. Amarnath Rao

Museum and Archives: Mr Paul Zwollo

School of the Wisdom: Director: Dr Ravi Ravindra (Jan.-March 1991)
Mr Rohit Mehta (Oct.-Dec. 1991)

Security: Mr D. V. Subramaniam

Theosophical Publishing House: Manager: Mr R. Gopalaratnam
Editor: Mr G. K. R. Patri

The Theosophist: Assistant Editor: Mr G. Naganathan

Vasanta Press: Mr B. K. Rao

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 1991

National Societies and Sections	38		No. of Lodges and Study Centres	No. of Members
Regional Associations (formed under Rule 35(c))	2			
Presidential Agencies	8			
Total Lodges and Study Centres	1,109			
Total Membership 1990	31,517			
Total Membership 1991	32,314			

(Does not include membership in areas and lodges attached to Adyar which have not sent reports)

Section	No. of Lodges and Study Centres	No. of Members	Section	No. of Lodges and Study Centres	No. of Members
1. Africa, East & Central	21	714	27. Ireland, Rep. of	1	21
2. Africa, South	5	309	28. Italy	48	1,205
3. Africa, West	13	378	29. Mexico	16	340
4. America, Central	7	35	30. Myanmar	—	—
5. Argentina	21	468	31. Netherlands	16	637
6. Asia, Southeast	2	75	32. New Zealand	16	1,782
7. Australia	13	1,409	33. Norway	—	55
8. Austria	3	187	34. Pakistan	5	211
9. Belgium	8	145	35. Peru	2	34
10. Bolivia	8	75	36. Philippines	14	462
11. Brazil	33	1,003	37. Portugal	12	282
12. Canada	9	231	38. Puerto Rico	5	180
13. Canadian Federation	8	61	39. Scotland	5	158
14. Chile	6	63	40. Spain	14	336
15. Colombia	9	130*	41. Sri Lanka	8	19
16. Cuba	14	561	42. Sweden	6	200
17. Denmark	1	20	43. Switzerland	9	145
18. England	57	1,650	44. U.S.A.	138	5,011
19. Finland	21	496	45. Uruguay	5	71
20. France	31	774	46. Venezuela	3	42
21. Germany, West	8	254	47. Wales	2	73
22. Greece	7	169	48. Yugoslavia	3	68
23. Iceland	9	453			
24. India	442	10,608	Total	1,105	32,190
25. Indonesia	18	547			
26. Ireland, North	3	43			

Lodges attached directly to Adyar

1. Hongkong	—	—
2. Covenant (Israel)	1	35
3. Tokyo and Osaka (Japan)	3	47
4. Korea	—	—
5. Fellows at Large	—	42
Total	4	124

* These represent the last year's figures.

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

The Theosophical Publishing House has made steady progress in dissemination of Theosophy. This year seventeen reprints were brought out, including *Basic Theosophy*, *Seek Out the Way*, *The Law of Sacrifice*, *The Concealed Wisdom in World Mythology*, *The Gospel of Israel* and *Talks on the Path of Occultism*, volumes I and II.

In commemoration of HPB's hundredth death anniversary, a volume entitled *HPB Teaches—An Anthology*, compiled by Michael Gomes, is being brought out. In addition, by the kind permission of the Theosophical Society in the Netherlands, TPH published an Indian edition of *Human Regeneration*, comprising lectures and discussions on the work and objects of the Theosophical Society, held

in Naarden, Holland, by Mrs Radha Burnier. It is expected to bring out *Man and the Universe* by Justice A. R. Bakshi by White Lotus Day, May 1992.

Books on Theosophy and by J. Krishnamurti continue to be distributed free from the Book Gift Fund to colleges, universities and public libraries.

The number of lodges which have subscribed to *The Theosophist* and *Adyar Newsletter* is as yet small. The fifteen-year subscription was instituted mainly to enable lodges to subscribe to these two journals going out from International Headquarters, and in the coming years many more lodges must come forward to subscribe to these journals.

MR R. GOPALARATNAM
Manager

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

The activities of the Adyar Library continue as usual. Its financial position is much improved because of the income from the Endowment Fund started at the time of the centenary of the Library. Dr James Nye of the University of Chicago was here for preliminary discussions in connection with collaborative work between the university and the Adyar Library.

The Director, Dr K. Kunjunni Raja, and some members of the Research Staff participated in conferences and delivered special lectures. Dr Raja's fellowship of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research ended and his report on 'The Mīmāṃsā Philosophy of Language' will be completed soon. He and Professor E. R. Sreekrishna Sarma are co-operating

with the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts in their publication projects. Dr K. V. Sarma received the Certificate of Merit for Sanskrit Scholarship 1991 from the President of India.

Publications Released

The Adyar Library Bulletin *Brahma-vidyā*, vol. 54 came out early in 1991. *Sāmānya Vedānta Upaniṣads* in an English translation by Dr A. G. Krishna Warriar was also published.

Works to be Released Shortly

Saṅgītaratnākara of Śārṅgadeva, with the commentaries of Siṃhabhūpāla and Kallinātha, vol. I, ed. by S. Subrahmanya Sastri, and revised by Smt S. Sarada, and the *Descriptive Catalogue of Tamil*

MSS by Pandit Ramachandra Sarma will appear soon.

Works in Progress

Among texts on which work has been started are: *Chândogyopaniṣad*, revised edition by Dr S. Sankaranarayanan; *Descriptive Catalogue of Jyotiṣa Manuscripts* by Dr K. V. Sarma; *Textual Criticism and Editorial Principles* with special reference to Samskrit, by Dr K. Kunjunni Raja and Dr K. V. Sarma; *Prābhākara Vyākhyā* with translation; *Upaniṣan Maṅgalābharaṇa* by Dr E. R. Sreekrishna Sarma; and the *Descriptive Catalogue of Śrauta Manuscripts* by Dr S. Sankaranarayanan, assisted by Pandit Ramachandra Sarma.

Service Rendered

Facilities have been afforded to research scholars from India and abroad as usual, and the reprographic section has supplied photocopies and microfilms as follows:

Photocopies of paper MSS 1,336 frames; palmleaf MSS 1,833 frames; transcripts 2,693 frames; books 17,090 frames; and others, totalling 1,005 frames. Copies taken for the Adyar Library totalled 4,048 frames.

The Adyar Library has 659 Readers and 291 Borrowers on its roll. During the year 40,761 books and 3,138 MSS were consulted, and 6,737 books were borrowed.

Repair and Preservation

In the binding section 972 books were bound.

Mr Huu Duc Huynh and Dr K. V. Sarma participated in the workshop and seminar on Preservation of Manuscripts and Materials held at Madras from 16-18 September 1991 by the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage.

Acquisitions and Cataloguing

During the year, 3,659 books (gifts and purchases) were added to the Library's collection, of which 2,269 were catalogued. Our thanks are due to TPH Wheaton for the donation of 25 books; TPH Adyar for 20; Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, Delhi, for 33; the President's Office for 85; and others who donated.

Research Scholars

Scholars from India and abroad utilized the Library for their research, including eleven from the University of Madras and from other Indian universities. Others came from the International Institute of Tamil Studies, Madras; the Kuppaswamy Sastri Research Institute, Madras; Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati; the Central University of Pondicherry; Madurai Kamaraj University; and the University of Kerala, Calicut. Miss Nadina Berardi of Columbia University, N.Y., studied texts on literary criticism with the Director. Among 9 overseas scholars, one was from Japan, 3 from the University of Queensland, Australia, and 5 from the Universities of Harvard and California.

MRS PARVATI GOPALARATNAM
Acting Librarian

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

As usual, there were two sessions of the School during the year. The October-December 1990 session consisted of two parts: a four-week intensive course

on 'Theosophical Study and Work' conducted by Mrs Radha Burnier, Mr Justice A. R. Bakshi, Mr Achyut Patwardhan and Dr Hugh Gray, and a six-week course

on the theme 'Essential Theosophy and its Rediscovery by Modern Investigators' with Mr Jack Patterson from New Zealand as the Director. The Director presented a comprehensive view of theosophical teachings vis-a-vis similar ideas presented by modern writers and investigators. His talks were illustrated by slides, and by drawings and illustrations screened by an overhead projector. Afternoon classes featured talks by several other speakers and discussions. More than forty participants and observers attended the first part, and nearly twenty the second part. Students came from Australia, Italy, Israel, Sweden, England and Yugoslavia, besides India.

The January-February 1991 session of the School was directed by Dr Ravi

Ravindra, Professor of Physics and Chairman of the Department of Religion at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada. The theme was 'The Essential Unity of the Higher Religions' which was dealt with by the comparative method, taking the two texts *The Gospel according to St. John* and the *Bhagavad Gītā*. His presentation highlighted the second Object of the TS and was much appreciated. About forty students came from the USA, USSR, UK, Argentina, Yugoslavia, Spain, Australia, Finland, Germany, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the Netherlands, Canada and Switzerland, besides several cities in India. The students were encouraged to pursue an individual project and study concomitantly with the course, for which appropriate references were recommended.

MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

The Museum and Archives were combined into one department in 1989 as originally envisaged by Colonel Olcott. After the renovation of the headquarters building in 1990, the space allocated to the department was more than doubled in order to provide additional display and storage room and also a larger area for work. It is now very necessary to make progress in updating catalogues and in conservation work. Mr Paul Zwollo participated in a weekend workshop on conservation organized by the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage. It is proposed to take the professional help offered by INTACH to de-acidify some documents and restore various paintings.

The highlight of the year was an exhibition on the life and work of HPB to

mark the end of the International HPB Year. Besides photographs of places and persons related to her life and work, it included furniture and other articles used by her or connected with her, and various other items of interest. Many delegates attending the International Convention in December 1991 expressed their appreciation after visiting the exhibition.

Several television teams from abroad, visiting Adyar in connection with the HPB year, took video-shootings of the exhibition. Visiting researchers used the Archives for their work such as: The Influence of Theosophy on Modern Art; The Political Papers of Annie Besant; the Russian painter Nicholas Roerich; and other subjects of interest.

MR PAUL ZWOLLO
Officer in Charge

offers a healing ritual for the ill and a service for those who have passed away. At these meetings there is also a group prayer for world peace.

In addition to relief activities in France, we are sending parcels of clothing, eye lotions to an eye clinic in Calcutta, medicines and vitamins to various organizations in India and some in Lebanon and Poland, through the Order of Malta. We sent funds for sponsoring four poor students at the HPB Hostel at Adyar.

Greece

TOS in Greece helps by telephone calls and correspondence the shut-ins, disabled, depressed, sick, lonesome, addicts and the aged. The President of the TOS in Greece requests that he be put on the mailing list of TOS in other countries. His address: Dr Agis Sarakinos, University Professor Emeritus, 61 Antistaseos Street, 152 31 Athens, Greece.

India

TOS work in India has gone on well and some dormant regions are getting revived and reactivated. Among regions continuing their good work are Karnataka, Bengal, Bombay, Bihar, Gujarat and Delhi. Karnataka, Bengal and Madras regions have established TOS Endowment Funds to help stabilize relief work. An All-India TOS Workers Camp was held at Kakinada to extend and improve the work, attended by forty workers. A similar regional camp was held by the Bombay TOS at Mahabaleshwar when there was a colloquium on the theme 'Humanity is our God and Service our Prayer'. Programmes relating to adult literacy, family planning, prevention of blindness and care of the aged are being planned.

In addition to disaster relief, TOS work in India includes free health clinics (both

allopathic and homeopathic), eye camps, legal aid for the poor, digging wells in rural areas, provision of scholarships, notebooks, uniforms and bedsheets, immunization programmes, and help to the handicapped.

The Netherlands

For years the TOS was not active in the Netherlands, but it has now been revived. In addition to local relief like providing magazines and cassette tapes for the aged and weak-sighted, we started action in December 1990 to give financial aid to Hungary.

New Zealand

Counselling of parents, animal welfare, promoting world peace and social service are among TOS activities in New Zealand. Several groups work in the field of child welfare, aid to prisoners, the handicapped and for social reform. Five ecology and healing seminars were held during the year.

Pakistan

The TOS in Pakistan continues its work with expansion among its beneficiaries who are school and college students and poor families needing continued support. The funds are generated by donations from the Save the Children Fund in London and local sponsors. Aid to the poor runs into thousands of rupees per annum. Animal welfare work includes a small publication brought out once in two months. A Montessori School serves the needs of poor and middle class children.

Philippines

TOS work is very active in the Philippines. The Intensive Rehabilitation Programme of undernourished children covered 159 children during the year; the Self-Reliance Programme extended

loans to 346 poor families to start their own small business; vocational training was provided for 133 needy women, and scholarships given to 52 students. Aside from these regular activities, they also sent food commodities to the volcano victims and a donation to flood victims in Bangladesh.

Switzerland

TOS was active in local welfare work and in supporting Amnesty International.

USA

The TOS in the US is active in many areas, including aid to the mentally retarded, housing the homeless, food stamps, Life Education Centres and Oxfam America. It also provides educational material to prisoners, and promotes vegetarianism. They publish a quarterly journal *For the Love of Life*, devoted to educating the public. The Healing Network now comprises 45 groups. Fighting drug addiction is another area of work. They have completed work on a detailed guide on rendering service, including self-preparation, working with others, and

specific projects and ways of service. The guide is titled *Living the Wisdom* and is to be printed and distributed by the Theosophical Society in America.

In conclusion, I would like to repeat that TOS work is best performed when the worker is selfless and compassionate, having a perception of the Oneness of all life. As our International TOS President, Mrs Radha Burnier has pointed out:

Service is the total abnegation of self-interest which leads a person to act for the good of 'others', because he realizes that there is no 'other'. The 'other' is part of the whole. Outgoing generosity, openness of heart, and action which emanates from the feeling of unity characterize real service.

While the fatherhood of God has been stressed, the brotherhood of man continues to be regrettably ignored. Let us all lend a hand to rectify this imbalance.

MR C. SESHADRI
International Secretary

THEOSOPHY SCIENCE CENTRE

This Centre is the successor to the Theosophy-Science Study Group, which was taken over by the TS headquarters at Adyar in 1991.

Holistic Science and Human Values will be brought out in the future from time to time, with an international editorial board. The following persons were contacted during the year and have consented

to be on the board. The first issue is to be released in 1992: Mrs Radha Burnier (Chairperson), Dr Hugh Murdoch, Dr E. C. G. Sudarshan, Dr Ravi Ravindra, Miss Joy Mills, Dr Ralph Hannon, Dr P. Krishna, Mr Curt Berg and Dr A. Kannan (Secretary).

DR A. KANNAN
Secretary

REPORTS OF GENERAL SECRETARIES

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

REPORTS FROM SECTIONS, NATIONAL SOCIETIES, REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES, ETC.

(Where necessary, reports have been translated,
edited or condensed.)

REPORTS OF GENERAL SECRETARIES

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

The Theosophical Society in East and Central Africa comprises three countries, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia, with a total membership of 714 in 21 lodges, of which about 12 are active. In Kenya, there are also five Study Groups at different schools where teachers and students numbering 15 to 30 meet regularly to discuss theosophical subjects.

Most of the lodges hold a weekly meeting except at Nairobi, Dar-es-salaam and Kitwe where two separate meetings are held, one in English and another in Gujarati/Hindi. Dar-es-salaam Lodge also holds a ladies' meeting every week in Gujarati. At all these meetings theosophical books are studied. Mufulira Lodge holds an additional study class once a week for beginners, and sympathisers. Nairobi Lodge also holds a members meeting once a month. Most of the lodges celebrated the important theosophical days.

To celebrate the HPB year, two seminars on HPB were held, one in Kenya and another in Tanzania. Kenya Region has also planned to publish a supplement in one of the local newspapers on HPB and the Theosophical Society before the end of the year. It also arranged a seminar of seven days at Nairobi on the theme 'A Journey to the Centre of Consciousness', when about 35 members from different lodges participated.

Another breakthrough in the propagation of Theosophy has been the regular half-hour programme of our National Lecturer, Mr Reuben Thuku, on Kenya TV since December 1990. He had, as usual, a very busy schedule of talks,

lectures and study classes in Kenya and Zambia.

The 36th bi-annual Convention of the Section was held at Dar-es-salaam during Easter. The occasion offered a good opportunity for the members of the three countries, Tanzania, Kenya and Zambia, to make new acquaintances, strengthen the spirit of brotherhood and discuss the affairs affecting the lodges of the three countries.

In Kenya, *The Theosophist* is distributed every month to sixteen state-run libraries, four universities, and newspapers. Kenya received a consignment of nearly 3,000 books from TPH Adyar after a delay of one year, and half of it was sold in a month's time.

The building of Kitwe Lodge is progressing at a slow pace. The plot was acquired from Kitwe City Council in 1988.

Voi Lodge in Kenya runs free medical clinics regularly once a week in rural areas where medicine is also given free of charge and average attendance per day is about fifty. Kilimanjaro Lodge, Moshi, in Tanzania runs a dispensary under the TOS. Nairobi Lodge contributed towards the construction of two water tanks in dry rural areas. It also held an Essay Competition and Kitwe Lodge and Mufulira Lodge of Zambia held Elocution Competitions for secondary schools when theosophical books and other prizes were given. Nairobi and Dar-es-salaam Lodges also have regular healing sessions, and members paid condolence visits to bereaved families.

MR KIRAN H. SHAH
General Secretary

AFRICA, SOUTHERN

The work in Southern Africa still manages to go on with the usual difficulties experienced by some of the lodges. Weekly public meetings are still going ahead with study groups and other interesting activities taking place during the week.

Our National Convention was held in Johannesburg, which was regarded as a very successful one. The 1992 Convention is scheduled to be held in Durban.

The four main lodges held gatherings on 4-5 May to celebrate the centenary of HPB's passing, sharing the activity with members of the Pasadena group. This proved to be a very happy event for all

concerned. Talks were given on HPB's work for Theosophy and the Society, with a display of all her important writings. The event proved successful and most interesting.

We commenced the year with 324 members on the roll and ended with 309, a decrease of 15 members.

Due to difficulty in getting money out of the country, the members of Harare Lodge have been awarded honorary life membership of the Southern African Section.

MR ARTHUR BUNTON
General Secretary

AFRICA, WEST

The TS in West Africa was chartered as a Section in January 1991 after twenty-one years of being a Regional Association.

A two-day Workers' Course was held on 29-30 June studying I. K. Taimni's *The Principles of Theosophical Work*. The Director was Mr I. K. Zaney. The course, the first ever held by the Section, attracted 32 participants and was a great success. A weekend seminar on HPB at Besant Lodge, Takoradi, in August also had a good attendance. The 35th Annual Convention held 28-31 March at Accra was characterized by inner regeneration. A committee was appointed to examine the Constitution and Rules of the TS in West Africa to reflect the new status of a Section.

The General Secretary made extensive tours of lodges and centres in Ghana and Nigeria, delivering talks to members and the public on the TS and its teaching of brotherhood and altruism. A pure life, self-study and meditation were emphasized and members were urged to lead a theosophic life. The visits were a great success.

Books were ordered from Adyar and sold to members. Registration of the TS Bookshop Company will soon be completed. Steps are being taken to strengthen the publicity drive to bring the TS to the notice of the public. A few problems militated against regular publication of the Section journal and a committee has been appointed to overcome them. *At the Feet of the Master* was translated into Akan Twi, one of the most popular languages of Ghana.

There were 14 lodges and 12 centres with a total membership of 378, an increase of 53 over last year. The Section now includes English-speaking Cameroon as well.

There is a paucity of workers because most members are employees, but we are optimistic that dedication and devotion will result in the systematic study and dissemination of Theosophy in West Africa.

MR PAUL B. KWAKYI
General Secretary

AMERICA, CENTRAL

No report

ARGENTINA

Most of the lodges in Argentina took some of HPB's works as their theme of study during the year. National gatherings were also devoted to the theme of 'Blavatsky and Her Work'. Our next summer-school to be held in February 1992 will close these celebrations. Four issues of the Section journal *Cambios* carried articles by and about HPB's life and teaching.

Overseas lecturers included Mr Ulisses Resende and Mr Ricardo Lindemann from Brazil, who delivered talks to members and the public. Lectures are recorded on cassettes for sale. Several audio-visuals, with slides, have been prepared and are sent regularly to all the branches and to public institutions. Video cassettes translated into Spanish are also offered.

A Basic Course in Theosophy by E. Simmons was reprinted. Sale of books has increased. Our Summer School and Winter School, both held in our colony at San Rafael, were successful with attendance of 56 and 32 respectively. National gatherings at Rio Cuarto and Rosario also attracted good attendance.

We again participated in the bookfair at Buenos Aires, with excellent results. Thousands visited our fair, and we distributed 30,000 leaflets and also hundreds of lists containing the addresses of all our branches.

Recipients of the correspondence course include persons in jail. Personal correspondence is sent together with the printed lessons.

MRS NORA SPAIRANI
General Secretary

AUSTRALIA

A good number of members attended the National Convention in Adelaide in April 1991 with Mrs Radha Burnier as guest speaker and 'Human Regeneration' as the theme. It was a particularly successful and happy time. Mrs Burnier spent some six weeks visiting all our lodges, giving members and the public the opportunity to meet her and hear talks on Regeneration and other subjects. Other lecturers from abroad during the year were Miss Shirley Nicholson from the U.S., Dr Rupert Sheldrake, and Mr and Mrs Ed Abdill from New York. Mr Hugh Dixon from Auckland Lodge,

New Zealand, also visited seven lodges throughout Australia.

During the International HPB Year, each of the lodges had set aside a special day to acknowledge and remember her work, some presentations being of an audio-visual type.

The Adelaide Lodge celebrated its 100th year, and 100 years of Theosophy in Sydney was celebrated by the Blavatsky Lodge. To mark the occasion, Section headquarters and Blavatsky Lodge held an Open Day in conjunction with a dedication ceremony when Mrs Burnier officially opened the renovated the Kent

Street building, followed by tea. Members and the public spent the day visiting the displays and memorabilia of rare and valuable books, photographs and newspaper articles.

The Theosophy-Science Group led by Dr Hugh Murdoch continued to meet throughout the year.

Regular public lectures and study classes were held in Graz, Linz and Vienna. The branch in Dornbirn was dissolved as nobody was willing to act as President after the death of Mrs Miranda Koch.

In August the Austrian summer-school was held again in Rohrbach and was attended by about forty participants.

We lost some of our oldest and most dedicated members during the year, amongst them Mr Julius Fleischanderl,

former General Secretary, and Dr Norbert Lauppert, also a former General Secretary and founder of 'Adyar-Verlag', the German region publishing house. Dr Lauppert was translator and author of many English theosophical books, including three volumes of Mahatma Letters. He was also a very fine lecturer. We are glad that we have some of his best lectures on tape.

MRS MARGARET LAUPPERT
General Secretary

AUSTRIA

BELGIUM

The number of members was the same as the year before, i.e. 145, working in 8 lodges, 4 in Brussels and 4 in provincial towns. The lodges in Brussels studied Annie Besant's *The Ancient Wisdom* in two groups, Krishnamurti's *Letters to the Schools*, astrological teaching regarding the relation between the celestial bodies and human beings, and *The Science of Yoga* by I. K. Taimni. A study course on Theosophy spread over three years as well as public lectures were also given.

The Theosophical Order of Service continues to maintain a link with outside organizations, giving support and financial assistance. At the Convention, the TOS public forum attracted a large crowd to hear 'Can Understanding Death Enhance the Quality of Life?'

MRS PATRICIA WITTS
General Secretary

In Antwerp, Ghent and Charleroi, study and public lectures are being carried on steadily despite many members becoming old. The lodge in Liege had to be suspended because of problems with members following the Bailey teaching. A study group will be organized in the premises until the lodge can work again in healthy conditions.

DR H. VAN DER HECHT
General Secretary

BRAZIL

Mr Ulisses Riedel de Resende was re-elected on 6 July 1991 for a second term as General Secretary and Mr Ricardo

Lindemann as Vice-President of the Section. The total number of members in Brazil is now 1,003.

The Brazilian Publishing House is increasing its activities. It has already published six books and five more are in the press, to be published in the beginning of 1992. The former are: *Seeking Wisdom* and *Thoughts for Aspirants* by N. Sri Ram, *The Key to Theosophy* by H. P. Blavatsky, *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy*, compiled by Ianthe Hoskins, *Ancient Wisdom, Modern Insight* by Shirley Nicholson and *Gayatri* by I. K. Taimni. Book sales registered an increase.

Lecturers from abroad during the year included Mr Alfredo Puig and Mr Antonio Martinez from Cuba, Mr Walter Ballesteros from Colombia and Mrs

Mr Carlos Ramirez was elected as General Secretary on 28 July 1991.

Public meetings were held in Santiago every Saturday from March to December on a wide range of theosophical and allied topics. Visitors from abroad included lecturers from Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. Three theosophical booklets were published as well as twenty letters to new members.

A special number of our quarterly magazine was devoted to the life and teaching of Madame Blavatsky. We also

Betsan Coats. Section lecturers travelled to many cities in the country.

Our summer-school in January 1991 on *The Key to Theosophy* was directed by Mrs Diana Dunningham Chapotin. In July we held a seminar in the Raja Centre near Sao Paulo on 'The Forgotten Origins of Christian Tradition'. Many study groups have been formed in several cities. The activities of the lodges and study groups are being regularly developed. Courses, meetings and seminars are being promoted. The Section journal *O Teosofista* and bulletins are published regularly.

MR ULISSES RIEDEL DE RESENDE
General Secretary

CHILE

conducted seminars and panel discussions about her and her work. Teaching programmes included a Basic Course of Theosophy and a Training Course for Workers, both emphasizing human regeneration.

The lodge in Valparaíso was reactivated and several talks were given. Translation of theosophical books and articles is also going on constantly.

MR MAURICIO FROIMOVICH S.
General Secretary

COLOMBIA

No report

CUBA

During 18-20 January, our 86th Annual Convention was held with the theme 'The HPB Centenary'. Three major lectures were given and discussions on her life and teachings took place. Good

attendance and friendship marked this successful event.

Although the International Vice-President could not visit us as planned owing to illness, we had two speakers

from Brazil, namely Mr Ulisses Riedel de Resende and Mr Ricardo Lindemann.

Foundation day, Adyar day, White Lotus day and the Vaisakh festival were commemorated. The year was remarkable for the programme of lectures on

various aspects of Theosophy and allied topics. All theosophical anniversaries were duly observed.

MR LUIS MANUEL COLOMA DELGADO
General Secretary

ENGLAND

The year 1991 was notable for the five-day programme of special meetings at the Headquarters in honour of Madame Blavatsky. Two other events deserve mention—a radical change in the Constitution of the National Council, allowing for direct lodge representation instead of representation by Federation officers, and the launching of a Video Drama Documentary, a project by an independent company, in close liaison with the Headquarters officers, to bring the life and teachings of HPB before a wider public.

Lecture and study programmes have been maintained throughout the Section, including several residential weekends at Tekels Park. The annual summer-school was again held at Nottingham University,

under the theme of 'Living Theosophy'. The Section was well represented at the European Congress in Germany in August and at the European School in Switzerland in October.

The Information and Publicity Department is continually active, distributing leaflets to the many enquirers and assisting lodges with local publicity. Many of the Headquarters lectures are recorded, a steady demand for these tapes being maintained.

The membership stands at about 1,650, the incoming 200 or so new members being more or less equal to the outgoing (chiefly by lapsing).

MISS IANTHE HOSKINS
General Secretary

FINLAND

The Annual Meeting was held in Helsinki on 30-31 March 1991 with Miss Ianthe Hoskins as guest speaker. Public lectures were organized as usual in Helsinki and in the other cities. In January Dr Henryk Skolimowski from USA visited us as the guest speaker.

The summer-school was held at Kreivila from 21-28 June, the keynote being 'From Chaos to Order', with Miss Joy Mills as guest speaker. About 100 persons

attended, including visitors from Estonia and Sweden.

We have 21 lodges and 3 study groups. The Chairman of the lodges and the study groups, Mr Hannu Viononen, organized three meetings, one in Helsinki and two in Kreivila summer-home.

The General Secretary, Mrs Kirsti Elo, visited Tallinn in Estonia from 1-3 March 1991, and gave three lectures, two

for Estonians and one for Russian-speaking people on 'Theosophy in the Life of the Individual and Humanity'. About 150 persons took part.

Mrs Kirsti Elo also took part in the White Lotus Day celebrations in Moscow as the guest of the organization 'Peace through Culture', and was interviewed by Moscow television. Some other members have visited Tallinn and Parnu in Estonia to lecture there.

The Vice-President of the Section, Miss Marja Artamaa took part in the Annual Convention of the TS in Varanasi and spent a few weeks in Adyar too.

With the other theosophical organizations we celebrated White Lotus Day, when there was an attendance of about 300.

Our journal *Teosofi* is issued six times a year.

MRS KIRSTI ELO
General Secretary

FRANCE

Our Section lost 65 members during the year, so on 1 September 1991 we were 774 members. About 20 lodges are active in France and in Africa. Lectures and courses are going on everywhere. Three new lodges were formed in Perpignan, Nice and at Lome (Togo).

Prof. W. H. van Vledder, General Secretary of the Dutch Section, was the guest of honour at our annual convention. A seminar was held in Brittany last May, with about fifty people from all parts of France and also some from Belgium participating. It was a full success.

Some French members went to Germany to participate in the European Congress, and it was a great pleasure for them to meet people coming from Eastern

Europe. The committee formed to send books, magazines, etc. to these countries worked very well; now it is under the auspices of the European Federation.

In the Congo, the members are trying to get recognition from their government for their lodges.

Our magazine, *Le Lotus Bleu*, is sent to members and to a great number of libraries all over the country as well as to Belgium and Switzerland.

The General Secretary attended the celebration of the centenary of the Indian Section and the last International Convention in Varanasi.

MRS FRANÇOISE CARA-COSTEA
General Secretary

GERMANY

The work of the lodges and groups continued intensively. During 1991 we focused on the life and work of HPB and she was especially remembered on White Lotus Day by all groups. Apart from *The Secret Doctrine* and other works of HPB, members also studied books by Sankaracharya, Slater, Nicholson and

Lauppert. Public talks were given in seven cities by Anneliese Stephan, Helmut Ripprich, Mary Anderson, Elizabeth Schmidt, Hans W. Damm and others.

We organized the European Congress at Arolsen from 13-21 July, with Joy Mills as guest speaker. The German summer-school was combined with this

event. A special feature of this Congress was the presence of guests from Russia, Czechoslovakia and Hungary. More than 160 participants spent a very interesting and harmonious week together.

All Theosophical Societies working in Germany formed the 'Theosophical Forum' held from 18-19 May 1991 at Wuppertal (formerly Elberfeld) where HPB stayed for some time. It was well attended and talks commemorated the centenary of HPB's passing. The study weekend gatherings in northern and southern Germany in the autumn of 1990 and the spring of 1991 were well attended.

The fifth German-language School for Theosophy took place from 4-8 October 1990 in Odenwalk. Special attention

was given to preparing a leaflet for contacting the public in the former East Germany.

Our magazine *Adyar* continues to pay for itself with more than 300 non-member subscribers. Our publications are now being sent to 'Peace through Culture' in Moscow. We published two books in translation, namely *Living in Wisdom* by Joy Mills and *Reincarnation* by John Algeo. A third book *Food for the Spirit* by Stephen Rosen is getting ready. During the year we also issued reprints in German of *Practical Occultism* and *At the Feet of the Master*.

MRS EVA MAAS
General Secretary

GREECE

No report

ICELAND

No report

INDIA

It was a memorable year for the Indian Section. The Centenary Convention of the Indian Section was held along with the 115th International Convention at Varanasi, the headquarters of the Indian Section, with nearly 900 delegates from 18 countries. The Besant Lecture of the Indian Section was delivered by H.H. the Dalai Lama to a very large audience. He also released a volume of Besant Lectures entitled *In Honour of Dr Annie Besant*. There were lectures by eminent Indians on the theme 'What does India need today?' in education, religion, politics and social reconstruction.

Another feature of the Centenary Convention was the planting of trees in the headquarters campus by delegates from the eighteen Sections who had brought soil from their respective countries for the purpose.

The Indian Section combined the programme of its own centenary with the International HPB Year through articles published in the *Indian Theosophist*, study classes, study camps and seminars. A special issue of *The Indian Theosophist* was devoted to the memory of Mme Blavatsky and received much appreciation.

Several articles were published in prominent newspapers. Several pamphlets and books in Indian languages were also published, as well as a compilation on *Theosophy and the Theosophical Society*.

Another noteworthy feature of the Centenary of the Section was the four-week intensive course on various aspects of theosophical study given during the October 1990 session of the School of the Wisdom at Adyar, to which a number of active TS workers from all over India were invited. The classes were conducted by the President herself and Mr Justice A. R. Bakshi.

Many federations held study camps as usual. Two of them were at Bhowali, on 'First Principles of Theosophy' and 'Human Regeneration'. The International President and Vice-President, as well as national and federation lecturers visited and lectured at many places.

The 68th South India Conference of the TS was held as usual at Adyar during the Easter weekend, attended by nearly a hundred delegates.

India continues to be the largest section with 10,608 members as of September 1991. There was a net increase of 288 members during the year.

Many active workers passed away during the year, leaving a void hard to fill. Several had been members for over five decades and will be remembered for their dedicated work.

The emphasis in the presentation of Theosophy has been changing to suit the needs of the time. Many members feel the need and are trying their best to have a deeper look within to unravel yet unexplored layers of meaning in the teaching presented in the theosophical literature. Attention is being drawn to the urgency of understanding more fully, to be aware of all that life offers, to have a new perception. There is always scope for understanding at a deeper level than we have done so far, to instil a new quality in whatever one has been doing.

DR C. V. AGARWAL
General Secretary

INDONESIA

Not much progress has been made in improving our Section during the last year. Except for the Annual Convention which was held in May and the visit of the International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, no other important event took place.

The International President's visit was indeed very beneficial, since through lectures and discussions held in several places such as Jakarta, Bandung, Semarang and Surabaya, our Section was inspired with new hope and fresh spirit. The problems which have been discussed with the President were: lack of active and devoted young workers, too few able

lecturers available, and decrease in membership because of old age, infirmity, illness or death.

Our 28th Annual Convention was held from 9-11 May 1991 in Prigen, a mountain village in East Java, on the theme 'Wisdom—The Way to Truth'. Ninety members and sympathizers from 14 of the 18 lodges attended. New office-bearers were elected at the convention. Among the resolutions adopted were: standardization of translated words and expressions in the Indonesian language, more books to be translated, collection of data in regard to TS in Indonesia, holding of summer-schools or refresher courses and study

classes, exchange of lecturers among lodges, translation of a small textbook *How to Run a Lodge* or *Branch Handbook* (a publication of the American Section) and translation of the Naarden seminar book *Human Regeneration*.

At present only two lodges have a

The Italian Section consists of 48 lodges and three study centres with a total membership of 1,205 as of September 1991.

The 77th National Convention was held as usual at Castrocara (near Bologna) from 23-26 May 1991 with about 150 participants. It was dedicated to H. P. Blavatsky with Mrs Audoin from France as guest speaker, and coincided with the publication of two biographical books on HPB by non-theosophical bookshops. A seminar was organized from 15-17 March on human regeneration by the European Federation at Torino with about 60 participants. The 6th seminar at Jesolo (Venice) took place from 16-19 September on 'The Theosophical Point of View on Christianity'.

Our monthly journal was published

Four new lodges and five study centres were formed during the year, bringing the total to 16 lodges, 19 study centres and 16 unattached members in an aggregate of 340.

Human Regeneration was the theme of the year and of our National Convention held from 23-24 May, attended by 250 persons, and featured speakers from USA, England, Canada, Australia and Costa Rica in addition to Mexico. We

promising youth section. Medan Lodge has succeeded in organizing 'outdoor classes' with the intention of gathering young people.

MR H. M. SOESISWO
General Secretary

ITALY

regularly and now has about 1,200 subscribers. We published three books during the year: Annie Besant's *Man and His Bodies*, Clara Codd's *Meditation*, and the third edition of C. W. Leadbeater's *Man, Visible and Invisible*.

The General Secretary lectured in various lodges across Italy. The work of the lodges went on fairly well, but there is lack of understanding of the meaning of Theosophy. In order to perform better our task, it would be necessary to present Theosophy to the public in such a way that it may be appreciated for its practical use in respect of our own happiness, psychotherapy, education, etc.

MR EDOARDO BRATINA
General Secretary

MEXICO

held six regional seminars on the same theme, which were also well attended. Four meetings were organized in various universities.

The section magazine *Unidad* was published regularly with a new format. Fifty-seven public meetings were held at the headquarters to diffuse theosophical knowledge. A Basic Theosophy Course was given at the headquarters as well as in the cities of Puebla and Guadalajara.

and lodges were supplied the Basic Course by correspondence as well, along with books as requested. All the lodges and a dozen study centres were visited to motivate and stimulate work on the theme Human Regeneration.

The headquarters library was improved notably and book sales registered a good

turnover. The Mystic Star ritual was restarted in Mexico city.

The Mexican Section was named the beneficiary of the entire estate of Mme Colette Lecoulrier who died in February 1990.

MR CARLOS LOPEZ CERDAN RIPOLL
General Secretary

MYANMAR (BURMA)

No report

NETHERLANDS

Our membership on 30 September was 624. Two lodges and one centre, which had not been working for years, were closed. Meetings of lodge committees were held to strengthen the link between them and the National Board.

Several weekends and seminars were organized and there was a special HPB remembrance on 4 May at the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden, where an exhibition about HPB with books and photographs attracted the interest of the press and the other theosophical organizations. There was a special issue about HPB of our magazine *Theosophia*. Most of the lodges specially commemorated White Lotus Day.

From 21-28 July, in collaboration with the European Federation, we organized a seminar at the International Theosophical Centre, with Miss Joy Mills as the guest speaker. She gave lectures on *The Voice of the Silence* under the title 'From Inner to Outer Transformation', and the lectures were later published.

On 25 August, the International President spoke to members on 'Theosophy in Daily Life', which was followed by a question and answer session. She also spoke to workers of the TS on 'Motivation for the Work'.

Our publishing house brought out *Reincarnation Explored* by John Algeo, *Human Regeneration* by Radha Burnier and two brochures entitled *Living Metaphors of Wisdom* (Joy Mills) and study papers on *Human Regeneration*, as well as four leaflets. Sales have been good.

The computerization of the library has nearly ended, which makes it possible to have an accurate account of the 5,000 or so theosophical books in the library.

During the year every number of our bi-monthly magazine was on a special theme. It is now providing very good information about the TS and runs into 1,200 copies.

DR W. H. VAN VLEDDER
General Secretary

NEW ZEALAND

Our annual convention with Mr John Cooper as guest speaker was an informative and enjoyable gathering.

Mr Cooper returned in June to give two seminars on meditation at Auckland and Christchurch.

Our journal *Theosophy in New Zealand* continues to be one of our best promotional mediums. The headquarters book library, video library, slide library and suitcase bookshop are all rendering active service to members and lecturers. Visits to prisons continue, with copies of *The Secret Doctrine* and other books being donated to prison libraries.

Thursday afternoon meetings at headquarters for members and friends are not being as well supported as in the past, but will be continued for a time. There was a decrease of 40 in membership, the total now being 1,782. Eight study centres are active, apart from 16 lodges.

MR WILLIAM W. JOHNSTONE
General Secretary

NORWAY

The section has about 55 members now, and the membership is stable. A few of our oldest members have passed away and some have resigned due to old age, and there have been a few newcomers.

There are regular meetings only in Oslo. We have a small group of members who carry out all the practical work of arranging the meetings and printing our magazine. The magazine is published four times a year and has a distribution

of about 130 subscribers. The meetings of the last year have taken the form of study groups. We have studied selected topics and Capra's book *The Tao of Physics*. In June 1991 the Section arranged a seminar on 'Symbolism in *The Secret Doctrine*', led by Miss Joy Mills. Some members attended the summer school in Naarden and the European Congress.

MS MARIANNE CHEN
General Secretary

PHILIPPINES

During the year, we publicized two events. A symposium on Religion and Peace in May and Foundation Day on 17 November, both attracting many visitors, as discount sales on books were offered. A major project of the Peace Library and Research Centre was the launching of a nation-wide essay contest on 'What I can do to promote peace?' in July 1991. The response was very good.

A new study group was formed in Naga City, where we also opened a branch of the Theosophical Bookstore. There is a prospect of setting up two new branches of the Bookstore in Cebu City and at the

shopping centre of the University of the Philippines. Sale of books and magazines we publish reached new heights.

After much delay, we have finally come out with another of Mr Geoffrey Hodson's books, *Yogic Ascent to Spiritual Heights*. With the nation-wide distribution of *The Theosophical Digest*, many persons from outlying towns have applied for correspondence courses or membership. The present membership is 462.

The TS was featured in interviews and articles in various media. A course in Theosophy is offered in Naga College.

The work of the Theosophical Order of Service has expanded. It was active in

helping the victims of the volcanic eruption. The TOS was a recipient of two awards from city governments and was featured in a television programme in Korea. It also got a UNICEF grant.

A number of new projects had to be postponed or shelved due to lack of

personnel. Our basic agenda should be the development of theosophical workers. The work of the TS cannot grow larger than the number of Theosophists whose lives typify the philosophy.

MR VICENTE HAO CHIN JR.
General Secretary

PORTUGAL

During the period under report activities went on steadily, with public lectures and symposia at the headquarters every fortnight and branch meetings every week. We commemorated all theosophical anniversaries. Lodges continued giving good collaboration for the public meetings, and almost all of them studied some aspects of Madame Blavatsky's works. Pythagoras Lodge held a study course on 'The Laws of Theosophy'.

Many of our members attended the 14th Iberian Theosophical Week near Madrid in April, consecrated to Mme

Blavatsky. Good work was done in a very fraternal atmosphere.

I have pleasure in reporting that some young members are helping the work of the lodges with great enthusiasm. As of September 1991, we had a total of 282 members. We could not resume the usual periodicity of our journal *Portugal Teosofico*, but published one issue in 1990 and another in 1991.

We are working always towards developing the great ideals of Theosophy in our country.

DR MARIA G. NOBRE SANTOS
General Secretary

PUERTO RICO

Public meetings were held on diverse theosophical topics on the first three Sundays of each month. Last Sunday meetings are for members only. These are sponsored by the Section in addition to the activities undertaken by the lodges. Lodges hold regular weekly meetings and commemorate theosophical anniversaries.

The Section continues to publish the journal *El Heraldo Teosofico* four times a year. The renovation of the Section headquarters building is well advanced and will soon be brought to a successful

conclusion. The annual conference was held as scheduled. Representatives of the Section have occasionally participated with other local metaphysical groups in ecumenical activities.

In June Mr Ricardo Lindemann, Vice-President of the Brazilian Section, visited San Juan and gave two public lectures, besides addressing a members' meeting. Dr Miguel A. Charneco from our Section and Dr Ana Rodriguez from Costa Rica are the co-ordinators for the fifth Theosophical Seminar of the Caribbean Basin which will be held in San Jose, Costa

Rica, in February 1992, along with a School of Theosophy. Mr Charneco has also been helping the work in the Dominican Republic, addressing meetings

in the lodge at Santo Domingo and study groups in several other cities.

MR ARAMIS LOPEZ
General Secretary

SPAIN

The Section has now 336 active members, grouped in 14 lodges, 38 being unattached as they live where there are no lodges. Our magazine *Sophia* is published regularly and the number of subscribers increases steadily not only in Spain but also in other countries.

A seminar was held in Calella de la Costa near Barcelona from 1-5 August with Miss Joy Mills as guest speaker on the theme 'From Inner to Outer Transformation' based on *The Voice of the Silence*. About 50 members from all over Spain attended this seminar and all the lectures were videotaped for future use by lodges and members.

The 14th Iberian Week held near Madrid during Easter had the theme 'HPB and Her Work' in commemoration of the centenary of her death. Guest speakers were Juan Viñas from Argentina and Isaac Jauli from Mexico. These were also videotaped.

A special work during the year was collecting donations for and printing *An Introduction to Yoga* by Annie Besant as a gift for our brothers in Hungary as per their request.

The work in Spain goes on regularly, with the usual difficulties such as paucity of workers.

DR ANGEL RUBIO
General Secretary

SRI LANKA

The pattern of activities during the year was not dissimilar to those of the previous year. Some of our lodges are not able to function effectively. Seven lodges away from the war zone have been able to function fairly normally.

The two lodges in Colombo conduct their activities jointly. Their regular monthly meetings are attended by an average of 25, with lively discussions after the lectures. A group of members spent five days each in discussion, study, meditation and reflection on two separate occasions at the beautiful Retreat Centre in Lewella, Kandy. There were also

informal meetings of small groups in members' homes.

Henza Lodge in Badulla which adjoins the war zone was able to enrol five new members and be quite active. It plans to expand its work. The members of Mount Lavinia Lodge are mainly interested in Buddhism, while Marifa Lodge in Hunupitiya specializes in Sufism. The passing of Brother A. P. Sugathadasa was a great loss to Shanti Marg Lodge in Galle and to the Section. Lotus Lodge in Veyangoda has activities under the caption 'The Perfect Peace Lodge'.

MR G. J. R. SAMARASINGHA
National Secretary

SWEDEN

The Section has 200 members. Six lodges have had activities which include many lectures on various theosophical themes and also study groups on *The Secret Doctrine*, *Light on the Path*, Sufism, etc. One lodge was dissolved.

Twelve members participated in the European Congress in Germany and two in the European School of Theosophy in Spain. One member attended the School of the Wisdom at Adyar. In May 1991, twenty members attended a mini-school in Stockholm, when Miss Ianthe Hoskins lectured on 'Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy'. In August, 21 members participated in a summer-school on the

theme 'For What do I search?' with Mr G. Gautama from India as guest speaker.

Our bookshop has been doing good work and the turnover has increased. Translation of theosophical books continues. We printed *The Key to Theosophy* abridged by Joy Mills. The Section's quarterly journal *Tidlos Visdom* (Timeless Wisdom), edited by Mrs Barbro Melander, was published regularly.

In January 1991 we moved to new premises in Stockholm with rooms for the bookshop, the library and lecture/study. We feel very happy with this.

MRS ING-BRITT WIKLUND

General Secretary

SWITZERLAND

The work is largely centred in Geneva. There are several lodges in this city, each studying a particular book or theme. Satisfactory progress has been made in making all these lodges more active. The lodge in Basle is also continuing to work as usual. There are a few members in other places like Zurich and Lausanne.

Attempts would be made in the future to take Theosophy to other places. The Swiss Section made a donation to Togo for the construction of the headquarters for French-speaking members in West Africa.

MME. ELIANE GAILLARD

General Secretary

U. S. A.

TPH had a net increase in sales. Several new Quest Books were released, including a new edition of the Dalai Lama's *The Opening of the Wisdom Eye*. Reprints of three other Quest titles were completed.

Circulation of *The Quest* increased to 22,000 copies, of which about 2,000 subscriptions were netted by our first direct-mail marketing test of 50,000 pieces. Follow-up mailings are planned for this fall. We anticipate an optimal

circulation in the 40-50,000 range and hope to achieve it in two to three years with quarterly direct-mail efforts.

We have been adding more 'thought pieces' into *The American Theosophist*, and are investigating introduction of desktop publishing to reduce the production costs of both magazines.

The Department of Education is responsible for public programmes, including lectures, workshops and seminars; correspondence courses; curriculum

development; new-member letters and correspondence with members; ordering videos for the Olcott Library; and serving as an administrative link with TS camps.

The Fieldwork Department has developed a variety of programmes including five seminars—three at Krotona and one each at Seattle and Olcott. Eighty-five visits by national speakers for lectures and workshops served branches and study centres around the Section.

We are engaged in active planning for the 1993 Parliament of World Religions scheduled for 28 August to 5 September, with the Dalai Lama as keynote speaker. Olcott is a possible site for some of the activities and the TS in America is a co-sponsor of the Parliament.

Two new programmes were added to the Eternal Quest television series, bringing the total to eleven. These programmes are now aired on 39 stations. Six additional programmes are nearing completion. The Audio-Visual Department has also developed several videotaped programmes for use by theosophical study groups. Some of the Eternal Quest programmes are being marketed for sale by TPH.

The Olcott library had another active year. The Department of Information responded to 1,656 enquiries and distributed several thousand leaflets to visitors and by mail.

MRS DOROTHY ABBENHOUSE
General Secretary

URUGUAY

During the year, no public lectures were given; instead an introductory course of Theosophy was offered. The different theosophical commemorations were duly held. The radio programme continues every Saturday morning. The Librarian reports an increased interest in borrow-

ing books.

The bookshop helps to attract public interested in contacting the type of literature on sale and also to get acquainted with the Theosophical Society.

MRS ELIDES NUNEZ DE ALVAREZ
General Secretary

WALES

The continuing interest in Theosophy and related subjects has resulted in an increase in membership. Attendance at both members and public meetings is very good and the lively and stimulating discussions are a measure of the deep interest shown by all.

Several study groups are meeting weekly; some members attended the summer-

school in England and study weekends at Tekels Park as well as the European Congress in Germany and the European School of Theosophy in Switzerland.

The library is now in good working order. We look forward to a year of continuing enthusiasm and goodwill.

MRS ELISE PROBERT
General Secretary

YUGOSLAVIA

The membership now stands at 68. Despite the war, all three lodges in Slovenia and the group in Croatia hold regular weekly meetings. They studied books by HPB, Annie Besant, C. W. Leadbeater and I. K. Taimni.

Mrs Jasna Zubcic gave many public lectures in Zagreb (Croatia); some of them were also broadcast by radio. Miss

Mary Anderson, Secretary of the European Federation, visited us in April. In September we held a summer-school with twenty participants on the theme 'Theosophy—the Key to Life'. Members from Croatia could not take part because of the war.

MR ANTON JESSE
General Secretary

REPORTS OF PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES

ASIA SOUTH-EAST

We hope to see Singapore in a spring field for theosophical activities in the region. A committee has been formed to plan the work.

I visited the Philippines and Indonesia to observe the work there. Brunei and Vietnam are my next target. Visiting lectures would be welcome and we look to headquarters for this.

BOLIVIA

The year was dedicated to HPB. Blavatsky with additional public meetings to disseminate her teachings. Some studies were also published in newspapers. Some other activities have been initiated this year to render homage to the centennial of

REPORTS OF REGIONAL SECRETARIES

CANADIAN FEDERATION

No report

IRELAND, NORTHERN

Our 42nd annual convention held from 8-9 June 1991 was well attended with Dr Harry Upadhyay from London as guest speaker. He gave two talks to members and a public lecture on 'Meditation—Theory and Practice'.

This year's meetings have gone on undisturbed, the area where we now meet being safer and more peaceful. Throughout the year we have managed to provide an interesting and inspiring programme of public activities in the form of talks,

tape recordings, questions and open discussions. Much time is given to discussion on theosophical topics after the study session each Wednesday evening. The works we have studied together this year included *Human Regeneration* by Radha Burnier and *The Only Revolution* by J. Krishnamurti, and in honour of the centenary of the death of HPB we have been studying *Old Diary Leaves*, vol. 1.

MRS MARIE HENRY
Organizing Secretary

REPORTS OF PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES

ASIA, SOUTH-EAST

We hope to use Singapore as a springboard for theosophical activities in this region. A committee has been formed to plan the work.

I visited the Philippines and Indonesia to observe the work there. Brunei and Vietnam are my next target. Visiting lecturers would be welcome, and we look to headquarters for this.

We publish *Lotus* and have received subscriptions from several countries for this magazine. The years ahead for theosophical work will be arduous, but with some effort Theosophy should play a major role in the regeneration of all cultures in this region.

MR K. K. TAN
Presidential Representative

BOLIVIA

The year was dedicated to H. P. Blavatsky, with additional public meetings to disseminate her teaching. Some articles were also published in newspapers. Some other institutions have imitated this labour to render homage to the centennial of

HPB's passing.

All the lodges held regular meetings and some had study sessions on theosophical books, mainly by Taimni.

MR MARIO CARIAGA ARAMAYO
Presidential Representative

DENMARK

The report does not differ essentially from the previous year. Members of White Lotus Lodge, numbering 20, have regular meetings twice a month, and studied Geoffrey Barborka's *The Divine Plan*.

We have no access to the membership file as the former General Secretary has seized our premises, library, bookshop, bonds, bank-accounts etc., and transferred all the assets to a new organization formed by him under the name 'Teosofisk Forening Denmark' (The Theosophical Association Denmark).

Consequently, legal proceedings were instituted. At the City Court in August 1990 the judgement given was against us. We put the case immediately before the Superior Court of Justice. The judgement is expected within a few months.

We had the great pleasure of meeting our International President Mrs Radha Burnier, during her visit to Copenhagen.

MR UFFE VILSTRUP
Presidential Representative

IRELAND

We have had a very quiet year, as a result of which we have decided to change our format a little in an effort to attract new members. Our speakers during the year have been giving talks on Comparative Religion, which have been quite well received, followed by lively discussion. Also we have been having concentrated study on *Human Regeneration*. In the coming year we hope to have regular meditation nights and also Open Nights on a monthly basis.

We had several guest speakers, including Dianne Kay Kynaston and Rhyl Bell, who were visiting Ireland; Dr H. Upadhyay, who gave talks on *The Voice of the Silence* and the Mahatma Letters; Dr Yves and Mrs Sheila Marcel. The Dublin Lodge Secretary, Harry Willis, attended the Seminar in Naarden given by Joy Mills.

MRS WIN WOODS
Presidential Representative

PAKISTAN

As in earlier years the main centre of theosophical activity in Pakistan continues to be in Karachi, where we have our own building, auditorium and a library of over 10,000 books. The Karachi Theosophical Society has 130 members. Weekly study classes are held every Wednesday and theosophical anniversaries are observed with a large attendance of members

and guests. The year beginning May 1991 has been observed as HPB Centennial Year with study classes being devoted to *The Secret Doctrine* and HPB's life and teachings.

One of the hurdles in promoting a greater understanding and spread of Theosophy in Pakistan is lack of foreign exchange to order new books from Adyar. Also it is

difficult to invite speakers from India for political reasons. However, we have invited a worker-cum-lecturer from England for six weeks between February and April 1992.

We bring out a small monthly publication, *The Karachi Theosophist*, which

is widely distributed and sent to interested persons.

The help that is most needed to expand work in Pakistan is that of good theosophical lecturers and lodge organizers. It is possible to support this work financially.

MRS GOOL K. MINWALLA
Presidential Representative

PERU

Celebration of the International HPB Year included an essay competition among members on HPB's life and teaching. There was a good response and the best two essays were rewarded with HPB's books. The essays will be published in our magazine as well. A special number of our journal *Krotona Americana* was dedicated to the memory of HPB, copies of which were also put on sale in bookstores.

Lodge meetings are held every Wednesday, including some public lectures. We now have 34 members, including 12 new ones. A great deal of effort was spent

during the year to renovate the premises given to us by Sister Edith Padilla.

Our nine-month basic course on Theosophy is progressing well, and we are planning an intermediate course in 1992 for students completing the basic course.

We were looking forward to the planned visit of the International Vice-President which could not materialize for health reasons. We are planning for visits during the coming year of Walter Ballesteros from Colombia, Marilia Pinto Andrade from Brazil and Alfredo Puig from Cuba.

MR JULIO GERARDO POMAR
Presidential Representative

SCOTLAND

Scotland has been able to observe the HPB Centenary Year with Russian visitors to the Edinburgh Theosophical Centre. A special spring issue of the Section journal *Circles* was published in her memory and copies sent to members, friends and enquirers at home and abroad.

We had several guest speakers during the year, including Jeanine Miller, Rosemary Larbalestier, Robert A. Gilbert and Mary Anderson. Talks for the general public are held regularly at Edinburgh and Glasgow. Weekend workshops

and seminars were well attended, including public participation. The Edinburgh Lodge has had a very successful Study and Discussion Group on the 'Principles of Theosophy'. Video viewing evenings are also held followed by discussion. Large libraries exist in Edinburgh and Glasgow, where cassettes and videos are also on loan.

The five lodges registered 12 new admissions during the year to reach a total of 158 members on 30 September 1991.

MRS MARGARET T. SENIOR
Presidential Representative

VENEZUELA

We had a very active year with celebration of HPB's death centennial as well as other theosophical anniversaries. We had the benefit of lecturers from several countries—Prof. M. Charneco from Puerto Rico, Mr R. Lindemann from Brazil, Mr Antonio Martinez and Mrs Julia Ballesteros, both from Colombia. These visits

were very successful and helped all of us.

We now have three lodges with a total of 43 members. The work is going through a period of beneficial transition and is developing quietly and in harmony.

MRS MARIA AMELIA DE BONILLA
Presidential Representative

REPORTS OF FEDERATIONS

EUROPEAN FEDERATION

No report

INDO-PACIFIC FEDERATION

No report

INTER-AMERICAN FEDERATION

The International Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan, was invited to give lectures in May and June in twelve countries of the Inter-American Federation in commemoration of the International HPB Year. After lectures in four Brazilian cities he took ill and had to return to India. Mr Ricardo Lindemann substituted for him and visited eleven countries—Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Cuba and USA. He used the tour to invite members in all these countries to the next World Congress in July 1993 to be held in Brasilia.

Mr Ulisses Riedel de Resende, President of the Federation, also visited Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Cuba and USA, giving lectures. He also gave donations from the Federation to

these six countries, for buying Fax machines. This facility has now been extended to the other countries as well and now all Federation members have Fax machines for speedy communication.

An Inter-American Theosophical Seminar was held in Uruguay in October 1991 on the theme 'HPB's Life, Work and Message'. The three-day seminar was attended by a hundred members from several countries and it was a great success. At the seminar, Mr Ulisses Resende was re-elected as President of the Federation and Miss Joy Mills as Vice-President.

The Federation has invited Mr Antonio Martinez, General Secretary of Colombia, and Mr Walter Ballesteros, former General Secretary of Colombia, to tour Federation countries during 1991-92.

MR RICARDO LINDEMANN
Secretary

REPORTS OF LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

COMILLA (BANGLADESH)

No report

HONG KONG

No report

TEL-AVIV (ISRAEL)

Two courses on Theosophy were given during the year—an Introductory Course for 35 students and an Advanced Course for 7. New sessions of both courses opened in September-October 1991, for 25 and 12 students respectively. Twenty-four public lectures were given during the year on various theosophical subjects in a hired hall in Tel-Aviv, with attendance of 40-50. A new group has been formed outside Tel-Aviv, in the town of Ashdod, and our lodge is sending lecturers to this

group once in two weeks.

Two one-day seminars were given in a forest near Tel-Aviv, with attendance of about 150 participants in each, on the themes 'From personal desire to universal love' and 'Personal, group and planetary healing'. Our magazine *Or* (light) is completing its third year. We now have 35 members, an increase of five during the year.

MR ABRAHAM ORON
President

TOKYO AND OSAKA (JAPAN)

The three lodges in Japan were active in their own way. Nippon Lodge studied *The Voice of the Silence* under Jeff Clark, with twenty participants. He also visits Nagoya Lodge every other month and gives talks followed by questions and answers. Osaka Lodge president, Mrs Nishio, passed away in June and has been succeeded by her son Hidenari Nishio.

The second edition of *The Secret*

Doctrine published during the year does not sell so well as the first edition, which was sold out in about six months in 1990. Now I am planning to publish some of the theosophical manuals for beginners. I have already translated them and other theosophical books for our monthly magazine.

MRS EMIKO TANAKA
President

KOREA

No report

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

RULES AND REGULATIONS

DIRECTORY 1992

AND

MINUTES

OF THE MEETINGS OF THE

GENERAL COUNCIL

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
FOUNDED 17 NOVEMBER 1875 INCORPORATED 3 APRIL 1905

MEMORANDUM
OF
ASSOCIATION, ETC.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

No. 2 of 1905

I hereby certify, pursuant to Act XXI of 1860 of the Governor-General of India in Council entitled 'An Act for the Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies, 1860', that The Theosophical Society is duly incorporated as a Society under the aforesaid Act.



(Sd) A. PERIYASWAMI MOODALIAR
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies

Station, Madras

Dated 3rd April 1905

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED 17 NOVEMBER 1875, INCORPORATED 3 APRIL 1905

*In the matter of Act XXI 1860 of the Acts of Viceroy
and Governor-General of India in Council, being
an Act for the registration of literary,
scientific and charitable Societies*

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is The Theosophical Society.

2. The objects for which the Society is established are:

I. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.

II. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy and Science.

III. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

(a) The holding and management of all funds raised for the above objects.

(b) The purchase or acquisition on lease or in exchange or on hire or by

gift or otherwise of any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society.

(c) The sale, improvement, management and development of all or any part of the property of the Society.

(d) The doing of all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them, including the founding and maintenance of a library or libraries.

3. The names, addresses and occupations of the persons who are members of, and form the first General Council which is the governing body of the Society, are as follows:

GENERAL COUNCIL

Ex-Officio

President-Founder:—H. S. Olcott, Adyar, Madras, Author.

Vice-President:—A. P. Sinnett, London, England, Author.

Recording Secretary:—Hon. Sir S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras, Justice of the High Court.

Treasurer:—W. A. English, M.D., Adyar, Madras, Retired Physician.

Alexander Fullerton, General Secretary, American Section, 7, West 8th St., New York.

Upendra Nath Basu, B.A., LL.B., General Secretary, Indian Section, Benares, U.P.

Bertram Keightley, M.A., General Secretary, British Section, 28, Albemarle St., London, W.

W. G. John, General Secretary, Australasian Section, 42, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Arvid Knos, General Secretary, Scandinavian Section, Engelbrechtsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.

C. W. Sanders, General Secretary, New Zealand Section, Queen Street, Auckland, New Zealand.

W. B. Fricke, General Secretary, Netherlands Section, 76, Amsteldijk, Amsterdam.

Th. Pascal, M.D., General Secretary, French Section, 59, Avenue de la Bourdonnais, Paris.

Decio Calvari, General Secretary, Italian Section, 380, Corso Umberto I., Rome.

Dr Rudolf Steiner, General Secretary, German Section, 95, Kaiserallee, Friedenau, Berlin.

Jose M. Masso, Acting General Secretary, Cuban Section, Havana, Cuba.

Additional

Annie Besant, Benares, Author, [for 3 years].

G. R. S. Mead, London, Author, [for 3 years].

Khan Bahadur Naoroji Dorabji Khandalvala, Poona, Special Judge, [for 3 years].

Dinshaw Jivaji Edal Behram, Surat, Physician, [for 2 years].

Francesca E. Arundale, Benares, Author [for 2 years]

Tammacharla Ramachandra Row, Gooty, Retired Sub-Judge, [for 1 year].

Charles Blech, Paris, France, Retired, Manufacturer, [for 1 year].

4. The Founders

Henry Steel Olcott, who with the late Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others founded The Theosophical Society at New York, United States of America, in the year 1875, shall hold, during his lifetime, the position of President, with the title of 'President-Founder', and he shall have, alone, the authority and responsibility and shall exercise the functions provided in the Rules and Regulations for the Executive Committee, meetings of which he may call for consultation and advice as he may desire.

5. Income and property applied to promotion of objects

The income and property of the Society,

whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, or otherwise by way of profits to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Society or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society or to any members thereof or other person in return for any services rendered to the Society.

6. Members of General Council not answerable

No member or members of the General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration or application of the said trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the said trust premises unless such loss, damage or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect.

7. Vesting of Property on dissolution

If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society or any of them but shall be given or transferred to some other Society or Association, Institution or Institutions,

Witnesses to the signatures:

(Sd.) WM GLENNY KEAGEY ...

„ ARTHUR RICHARDSON ...

„ PYARE LAL ...

„ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE ...

having objects similar to the objects of this Society, to be determined by the votes of not less than three-fifths of the members of the Society present personally or by proxy, at a meeting called for the purpose, or in default thereof by such Judge or Court of Law as may have jurisdiction in the matter.

8. Filing of Rules and Regulations, Memorandum

A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is filed with this Memorandum of Association, and the undersigned being seven of the members of the Governing Body of the said Society do hereby certify that such copy of such Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is correct.

As witness our several and respective hands, this 11th day of March 1905.

(Sd.) H.S. OLCOTT

„ W.A. ENGLISH

„ SUBRAMANIAM

„ FRANCESCA E. ARUNDALE

„ UPENDRA NATH BASU

„ ANNIE BESANT

„ N.D. KHANDALVALA

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION NAMED 'THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY', ADYAR, MADRAS

1. General Council

The General Council shall be the Governing Body of The Theosophical Society. All members of the General Council shall at all times be Fellows of the Society and not fewer than seven members of this Council shall be resident in India.

2. Members of the General Council

(a) The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the General Secretaries of the component National Societies (otherwise called Sections) shall *ex-officio* be members of the General Council. The terms of those members of the General Council who hold office *ex-officio* shall expire with the vacation of their qualifying office.

(b) The General Council shall include not fewer than 5 and not more than 12 Additional Members, among whom all past Presidents while in good standing shall automatically have place. Other members shall on the nomination of the President be elected for a term of three years by vote of the General Council at its Annual Meeting, their names having been sent to the Members of the General Council at least three months before the Annual Meeting.

(c) Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.

3. Removal of General Council members and officers

It shall be competent for the General Council to remove any of its members, or any officer of the Society excepting the President of The Theosophical Society

and excepting the General Secretaries of National Societies, by a three-fourths majority of its whole number of members, at a special meeting called for the purpose, of which at least three months' notice shall have been given, the quorum consisting, however, of not fewer than five members.

4. Meetings of the General Council

(a) The General Council shall ordinarily meet once a year, at the time of the Annual Meeting or Convention of the Society; but a special meeting may be called at any time by the President, and a meeting shall be called at any time by him, or if not by him, by the Secretary, on the written requisition of not less than one-fourth of the total number of members; but of such special meetings not less than three months' notice shall be given, and the notice shall contain a statement of the special business to be laid before the meeting.

(b) Whenever, at any time or place, a Convention or other function of the Society shall bring together a number of members of the General Council, the President at his discretion may call such members to a meeting for the purpose of study and discussion of any matters concerning the Society that he considers appropriate to lay before them. The meeting may then forward to the President its report on such matters and may make recommendations thereon. Such meetings shall be of a consultative nature without administrative or legislative authority, or may be of a legislative nature upon the decision of the General Council taken at least one year in advance.

In the event the President does not himself attend such a meeting he may appoint the Vice-President or some other member of the General Council to preside in his stead.

The President or his Deputy shall give not less than thirty days' notice of such meeting to all members of the General Council who may be expected to be present at the function that provides occasion for the meeting, but all members of the Council shall have the right to attend.

5. Resolutions

(a) On the request of any member of the General Council any resolution or other item of business proposed by such member shall be placed on the Agenda, and circulated with brief supporting statements, for consideration at the next meeting of the General Council, provided that not less than three months' notice of such resolution or item of business shall be given to the Secretary.

(b) At all meetings of the General Council, members thereof may vote in person, or in writing, or by proxy duly given to another member of the General Council for the particular meeting concerned. Except as aforesaid no member shall exercise more than one vote. No member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 proxy votes.

Note: Meetings include adjourned meetings.

6. Quorum

The quorum of an ordinary as well as of a special meeting of the General Council shall be five members. If there be no quorum, the meeting may be adjourned *sine die*, or the Chairman of the meeting may adjourn it to another date, of which three months' further notice shall be given, when the business of the meeting

shall be disposed of, irrespective of whether there is a quorum present or not.

7. Who Shall Preside

The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, of the Society shall preside at all meetings of The Theosophical Society or of the General Council, and shall have a casting vote in the case of an equal division of the members voting on any question before the meeting.

8. President

In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a chairman from among the members present at the meeting, and he shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. President's term of office

The term of office of the President shall be seven years from the date of assuming office.

10. Election of President

The procedure for election to the office of President shall be as follows:

(a) Seven months before the expiration of a President's term of office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, the Executive Committee shall appoint a special Committee consisting of three members of The Theosophical Society in good standing including the Secretary, but excluding any candidate for the office of President, to carry out the election procedure as hereinafter detailed.

This Committee shall be known as the Election Committee and shall be answerable only to the Executive Committee.

It shall be automatically dissolved on the declaration of the voting result.

(b) Immediately on its appointment, the Election Committee shall instruct

the Secretary to send out to the members of the General Council a written call for nominations for the office of President.

The call for nominations shall be sent by airmail or other expeditious means if airmail be unavailable, followed one week later by a second (duplicate) call.

(c) Any member of the Society in good standing, having been a member for at least ten consecutive years immediately preceding his nomination, may be nominated.

Each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary, shall be entitled to make three nominations and shall consult his Governing Body before making nominations.

The President shall be entitled to make three nominations.

The Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and each Additional Member of the General Council shall be entitled to make one nomination.

The nominator shall be responsible for ensuring that his nomination(s) reaches the Secretary within ten weeks of the date of the call for nomination.

The nominee shall be responsible for notifying the Secretary, within the above-mentioned period of his acceptance of nomination. One written consent shall suffice for all nominations for that nominee.

(d) At the expiration of ten weeks, the Election Committee shall place all the nominations received, together with the relevant papers, before the Executive Committee at a meeting especially convened for the purpose.

At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations.

The three nominees having the highest number of nominations shall alone be qualified to be on the voting list, but if two (or more) nominees qualify for the

last place on the voting list, they shall both (or all) be included in the list.

No nominee shall be included in the voting list unless supported by at least twelve nominations.

The names of the nominees who thus qualify for inclusion shall be listed in alphabetical order.

This list, as finalized by the Executive Committee, shall be the voting list and shall not be subject to challenge.

However, in the event of a nominee dying or being so seriously incapacitated as to be unable to carry out the Presidential duties if elected, between the date of the call for nominations and the despatch of the voting list, the nomination procedure shall be repeated, commencing within seven days from the notification of the fact to the Secretary.

(e) The Secretary shall then immediately communicate in writing by airmail or other expeditious means (followed one week later by a second and duplicate communication) the voting list together with biographical data of the candidates in accordance with Appendix A to these Rules, to the General Secretaries, Regional Secretaries, Organizing Secretaries, and Presidential Representatives and to the Lodges (Branches) and Fellows-at-large attached to Headquarters.

Each General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary and Presidential Representative shall make known the names of the candidates and their biographical data to the members in his area and take the votes in accordance with the instructions in Appendix B to these Rules of the individual members on the rolls of his National Society or area of administration who have been members in good standing for two full years as on the date of the call for nominations, and shall communicate the results to the

Secretary in accordance with the instructions given in Appendix B to these Rules.

The Election Committee shall take the votes in accordance with the instructions given in Appendix B of these Rules of the members of the Lodges (Branches) and Fellows-at-large attached to Headquarters who have been members in good standing for two full years as on the date of the call for nominations.

The voting results must reach the Secretary within fifteen weeks of the date of issue of the voting list by him.

If only one name remains on the voting list the vote shall be taken on a 'For' or 'Against' ballot.

(f) At the expiration of fifteen weeks from the date of issue of the voting list by the Secretary, the voting results shall be totalled by the Election Committee and placed before the Executive Committee.

Within three days of the closing date of voting, the candidate who has received the largest number of votes shall be declared elected President and shall assume office not later than thirty days thereafter.

In the event of a tie, or of the rejection of a single candidate in a 'For' or 'Against' ballot, or of a candidate on the voting list dying or being so seriously incapacitated as to be unable to carry out the Presidential duties if elected, after the despatch of the voting list and before the final totalling of votes, the nomination and election procedure shall be repeated, commencing within seven days from the notification of the fact to the Secretary, and the President in office or the Vice-President if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President assumes office.

Note: A member is in good standing if his dues have been paid for the last

official year to his Section, Regional Association or Presidential Agency or in the case of Lodges (Branches) attached direct to Adyar and Fellows-at-large to the Secretary or Treasurer concerned.

11. Nomination and election of Vice-President; his duties

(a) Within three months of assuming office the President shall nominate the Vice-President subject to confirmation by the General Council. His term of office shall be at the discretion of the President but when the Vice-President has been three years in office that office shall become vacant by the passage of time and the President, within three months, shall again make a nomination and submit it to the General Council. Notwithstanding this provision the Vice-President shall remain in office and his term shall continue until a successor has been nominated and confirmed. The Vice-President in office may be renominated. It shall be his duty, among other things, to carry on the executive functions of the President in case the President is dead or where the Executive Committee finds that he is disabled by accident, serious illness or otherwise from performing the duties of the President.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein contained the Vice-President doing the duties of the President shall continue to be the Vice-President of the Society until a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. In case of death, resignation or disability of such Vice-President doing the duties of the President, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice-President who shall hold office until the new President shall have nominated a new Vice-President and his nomination be confirmed by the General Council.

12. Appointment of Secretary and other officials

The Secretary and such subordinate officials as are necessary shall be appointed by the President and confirmed by a majority vote of the Executive Committee at its next meeting, the newly appointed officials not being present or voting. The Executive Committee may remove any of these appointees, by a vote of three-fourths of the whole number of its members. In this event, the President shall make a new appointment.

13. Nomination and election of Treasurer

The President shall nominate the Treasurer, following consultation with and approval by the Executive Committee and subsequent confirmation by the General Council for a period of three years. In the event of an emergency, the President may appoint an acting Treasurer with the approval of the Executive Committee until such time as the General Council can confirm a new Treasurer in accordance with the procedure laid down above. The Treasurer may be removed from office by the General Council or by a vote of three-fourths of the number of members of the Executive Committee. In such an event, the President shall nominate a new Treasurer, following consultation with and approval by the Executive Committee and subsequent confirmation by the General Council.

14. Appointment of Executive Committee

(a) The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year or until its next Annual Meeting, of not less than seven and not more than ten members, of whom at least six shall be members of the General Council. The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Secretary shall be *ex-officio* members.

Vacancies caused by death or resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-option.

(b) The General Council may delegate to the Executive Committee any of its powers and authority in the management of the business and affairs of the Society except:

(i) The power to amend or repeal the Rules;

(ii) The power to borrow money and incur indebtedness;

(iii) Such powers as are specifically reserved to the President.

The Executive Committee shall have such powers as are delegated to it by the General Council and as are specified in the Rules. The Executive Committee may recommend to the General Council programmes, policies or activities, but it may not initiate projects requiring major funds not within the current approved budget.

15. Meetings of Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months for the receipt and consideration of accounts and the despatch of any other business. A special meeting may be called by the President whenever he thinks fit, and such meeting shall be called by him, or if not by him, by the Secretary, when he is required to do so, by not fewer than three members of the Committee, who shall state to him in writing the business for which they wish the meeting to assemble.

16. Quorum of Executive Committee

At a meeting of the Executive Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum.

17. Chairman of Executive Committee

The Committee shall, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, elect a Chairman to preside over the meeting

and in case of equality of votes the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting vote.

18. President Custodian of archives; Executive Officer; power to make temporary and provisional appointments

The President shall be the custodian of all the archives and records of the Society, and shall be the Executive Officer and shall conduct and direct the business of the Society in compliance with its rules; he shall be empowered to make temporary appointments and to fill provisionally all vacancies that occur in the offices of the Society, and shall have discretionary powers in all matters not specifically provided for in these Rules.

19. Receipt of moneys

All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Secretary, the receipt of any of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

20. Deposits, Signatories

The securities and uninvested funds of the Society shall be deposited in the State Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T.S., shall select; and in countries outside of India, in such Banks as the President shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by any two of the following: the President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and any other persons appointed by the President for the purpose under Rule 12.

21. Power of Attorney

(a) Notwithstanding anything in these rules to the contrary the President may, touching the assets and affairs of the Society beyond India, at any time and

from time to time by a Power of Attorney appoint any persons to be the Attorneys of the Society for such period and subject to such conditions and for such purposes and with such authorities and powers as he may think fit, and he may if necessary affix the Seal of the Society thereto.

Without prejudice to the general powers conferred as aforesaid, the President may grant power and authority among others to sell, grant mortgage, lease or otherwise transfer the assets of the Society, movable or immovable, real or personal, and to receive subscriptions, donations, legacies, moneys and other property, movable or immovable, and to institute, continue, compromise, compound or refer to arbitration any actions, suits, or other proceedings, and to take and hold shares in any company, and to vote at any meetings thereof, and to sub-delegate all or any of his powers, and to give receipts and release, and to sign, seal and deliver any instrument or document and have the same registered.

Investments

(b) The funds of the Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public Securities, Unit Trust of India, Term Deposits in Scheduled Banks, fixed deposits and bonds of Government of India undertakings or in the purchase of immovable property or First Mortgages in such property.

Disposal of Adyar Estate

(c) The Adyar Estate of the Society in Madras including the Society's original Headquarters and all other properties in Adyar since acquired by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall not at any time be disposed of by sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or otherwise; save that the President, if specially authorized by a

resolution of the General Council, passed by a three-fourths vote of their members, voting in person, in writing or by proxy, may dispose of such outlying portions of the said Adyar Estate, as may be specified in such Resolutions.

Transfer of investments and other property

(d) The President may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in Government or other Public securities, or any movable or immovable property of the Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21(c).

22. Affixing of Seal, Signatures

(a) All deeds whereby immovable properties belonging to the Society are transferred or otherwise dealt with shall have affixed to them the Seal of the Society with the signature of the President and of the Secretary. In case of the absence of the President or Secretary or where the Executive Committee finds that either of them is by reason of disability caused by accident, illness or otherwise, unable to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President or Secretary as the case may be.

Transfer of movable property

(b) All transfers of movable property, if in writing, shall bear the signature of the President and of the Secretary but need not have affixed to them the Seal of the Society. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is by reason of disability caused by accident, illness or otherwise, unable to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

Note: The procedure detailed in this Rule is without prejudice to the powers conferred under Rule 21(a).

23. President may Sue

The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President.

24. Secretary to affix Seal

The Secretary may, with the authority of the President, or of the two substitutes appointed according to Rule 22, affix the Seal of the Society on all instruments requiring to be sealed, and all such instruments shall be signed by the President or by the two substitutes above mentioned and the Secretary.

25. Death or resignation of President

On the death or resignation of the President, the Secretary shall at once make arrangements for the election of a new President, in accordance with Rule 10, and until such new President is elected the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

26. Headquarters

Headquarters of the Society are established at Adyar, Madras, and are outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Section.

27. Permission to reside

The President shall have full power and discretion to permit to any person use of any premises or portion thereof in the Adyar Estate for occupation and residence, on such terms as the President may lay down, or to refuse permission so to occupy or reside. Any person occupying such premises under the permission granted by the President shall, on a fortnight's notice given by or on behalf of the President, unconditionally quit the premises before the expiry of that period. When circumstances warrant it, the fortnight's notice may be dispensed with and

the person shall quit immediately when required to do so.

28. Eligibility for membership

Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in the Society, but those under the age of eighteen shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian, and shall have no right to vote until they have reached the age of eighteen years.

29. Admission to membership

(a) Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge (Branch), the General Secretary of a National Society or, through the Secretary; and a Diploma (Certificate) of membership shall be issued to the Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, or countersigned by the Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Secretary.

(b) Admission to membership shall be at the discretion of the National Society or the international Secretary, as the case may be.

Membership Date

(c) The date of membership will begin:

(i) When admission has been made through the General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary, or Presidential Representative from the date of acceptance by the General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary or Presidential Representative as entered by him and duly reported to the Secretary at Adyar.

(ii) When admission has been made through the Secretary, from the date of

acceptance of the application by him, and so recorded in his office.

(d) Members may not be full members of more than one Lodge (Branch) at a time, but may be accepted as Affiliated or Honorary Members of Lodges (Branches) other than the one in which they are full members. Affiliated or Honorary Members may possess such rights and privileges as are accorded to them by the Lodge (Branch) in which they hold such membership, but they shall not be founder members of new Lodges (Branches), but if a member becomes a founder member of a new Lodge (Branch), he must become a full member of such Lodge (Branch) and shall relinquish full membership in any other Lodge (Branch). Affiliated or Honorary Members are not to be counted in the international records or vote in international elections other than through the Lodges (Branches) in which they hold full membership.

(e) Without prejudice to the provisions of Rule 10, no member in good standing for less than two years shall have the right to vote in elections and other matters pertaining to Lodges, Federations, Regional Associations, National Societies or other duly constituted bodies of the Theosophical Society. In the case of newly formed Lodges (Branches), or in other special circumstances, the General Secretary, or National Council or Committee, or the international Secretary, as the case may be, shall have the power to waive the requirements of this rule.

30. Lodges and Fellows within a National Society

Lodges (Branches) and Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge (Branch), residing within the territory of a National Society, shall normally belong to

that National Society, unless coming under Rule 31.

Provided that with the consent of the General Secretaries concerned a member who belongs to one National Society may, while retaining his membership of that National Society, belong to another National Society as an Affiliated or Honorary Member, but he shall not cast a vote in matters relating to The Theosophical Society in the National Society in which he is an Affiliated or Honorary Member.

When a National Society under its own rules provides for Life Membership in that National Society, such Life Membership shall no longer be effective where a Member resides in the territory of or transfers his membership to another National Society, unless the specific approval of the General Secretaries concerned has been granted.

31. Lodges and Fellows within a National Society but attached direct to Adyar or to another National Society

(a) When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible. This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member.

(b) A Fellow of The Theosophical Society in good standing who is desirous of leaving the National Society to which

he or she belongs or ought to belong under Rule 30 and of joining another National Society, may be permitted by the President to do so provided such Fellow presents reason sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, and provided further that the application for transfer is submitted with the approval of the General Secretaries of both National Societies concerned.

This rule shall apply equally in the case of the admission of a new member.

(c) When a Lodge (Branch), for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such Lodge (Branch) may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.

Before any Lodge (Branch) shall have the right to apply to be directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, it shall have mailed to each of its members individually a notice that such application is about to be considered. Such notice must be mailed not less than two weeks before the meeting at which such consideration is to take place, and voting on the application shall be deferred until two months after that meeting. If at such first meeting, or any succeeding meeting pursuant thereto, it is decided to bring the application to a vote as herein provided, a full report of the reasons for such action shall at once be sent to the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Any application for separation from the National Society to which a Lodge

(Branch) belongs shall be ineffective unless two-thirds of the members of the Lodge (Branch) vote in favour thereof.

(d) In the event of any undue delay in the transmission of any application under any of the foregoing provisions of this Rule, a correct copy of such application (duly signed or otherwise authenticated) may be transmitted directly to the President by the Fellow or Lodge (Branch) concerned, and the President may act on such copy if in his absolute discretion it appears to him to be fit or proper that he should so act. Any action so taken by the President shall be as valid and effectual, for all purposes, as if it had been taken on the original application submitted for transmission to the President. The Fellow or Lodge (Branch), when forwarding such copy to the President directly, shall state the full grounds and reasons for the direct transmission.

32. Lodges and Fellows where no National Society exists

Lodges (Branches) or Fellows-at-large, in countries where no National Society exists, must apply for their Charters or Diplomas (Certificates) directly to the Secretary, and may not, without the sanction of the President, belong to National Societies within the territorial limits of which they are not situated or resident.

33. Formation of a Lodge

Any seven Fellows may apply to be chartered as a Lodge (Branch). In a country where no National Society exists the application must be forwarded to the President of the Society through the Secretary.

The Presidents, Secretaries and other Officers, including Committee Members, of Lodges (Branches) shall have been members in good standing for not less than

two consecutive years immediately prior to their election. In the case of newly formed Lodges (Branches), or in other special circumstances, the General Secretary or National Council or Committee, or the international Secretary, as the case may be, shall have the power to waive the requirements of this rule.

Three or more members, but less than seven, may apply for certification as an Official Study Centre, but such Official Study Centres shall not be considered as units to be counted in application for the formation of a National Society.

34. President grants, refuses Charters

The President shall have authority to grant or refuse applications for Charters, which if issued, must bear his signature and that of the Secretary, and the Seal of the Society, and be recorded at the Headquarters of the Society.

35. Formation of a National Society

(a) A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges (Branches) consisting of at least 70 members of the Society in good standing.

Formation of a Section

(b) Upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges (Branches) in areas which are territorially adjacent and in which there are not sufficient Lodges (Branches) for each national group to form a National Society, the President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) a Charter constituting such Lodges (Branches) into a Section. The Charter shall confer the same powers as one issued to a National Society. In all respects the rules applying to National Societies shall apply to any group of Lodges (Branches) holding a Charter under this rule.

Formation of a Regional Association

(c) The President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) a certificate of Regional Association to any national or territorially adjacent group of Lodges (Branches) not sufficient in number or otherwise unable to form or to maintain a National Society, as defined in these Rules, or where in his judgement territorial division or other causes have made such Regional Association necessary or desirable. Any such Regional Association may elect an Organizing Secretary or other executive officer or officers for the purpose of further organization and the transaction of business.

A Regional Association shall not appoint a General Secretary (as the term is used in these Rules) nor be represented on the General Council. In all other respects the Rules applicable to National Societies and to General Secretaries shall apply to Regional Associations and to their chief executives.

Appointment of Presidential Representatives

(d) The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential Representatives to act under his instructions for the purposes of conducting the business and administration of the Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules. Each such appointment and the power delegated to each such Representative shall be evidenced by a Letter of Appointment referring to this Rule.

36. Authority of Charters and Diplomas

(a) All Charters of National Societies or Lodges (Branches) and all Diplomas (Certificates) of membership derive their authority from the President, acting as Executive Officer of the General Council of the Society, and may be cancelled by the same authority.

(b) Without prejudice to the provisions of sub-rule (a), a National Society, Section or Regional Association may cancel the Charter of a Lodge (Branch) within its area. This power shall be exercised by the Governing Body or Committee which is responsible, according to the constitution, rules and regulations of the National Society, Section or Regional Association, for the management of the business and affairs of the National Society, Section or Regional Association.

(c) The Lodge (Branch) may appeal to the President against the cancellation of its Charter under sub-rule (b) within a period of three months from the date of receipt of the order of cancellation of the Charter, and the President may either uphold or quash the order of cancellation. The decision of the President shall be deemed to be effective from the date of the order of cancellation of the Charter by the National Society, Section or Regional Association.

Provided that if the President does not pass an order on the appeal within a period of nine months from the date of receipt of the appeal, the cancellation of the Charter shall be deemed to have been upheld.

Minimum number of members for National Society

(d) If at any time the number of members in good standing of a National Society falls below seventy and the number of Lodges (Branches) falls below five, the President may, at his discretion withdraw its Charter.

In the event of the Charter not being withdrawn, the General Secretary of the Section concerned shall cease to have voting rights as a member of the General Council until the necessary numerical strength is recovered.

37. Rules of Lodges and National Societies

Each Lodge (Branch) and National Society shall have the power to make its own Rules which shall not be incompatible with the Rules of the National Society to which the Lodge (Branch) belongs or with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

All Rules of Lodges (Branches) and National Societies and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval within thirty days of their adoption as follows:

(a) In the case of a Lodge (Branch) belonging to a National Society, all such Rules and amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary of that National Society, and shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgement of their receipt by the General Secretary of the National Society.

(b) In the case of a National Society, or of a Lodge (Branch) not situated within the territory of a National Society, or of a Lodge directly attached to Adyar under Rule 31(c) all such Rules or amendments thereto shall be submitted directly to the international President, and shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within nine months of acknowledgement of their receipt.

If by a change made in a Rule of The Theosophical Society, any Rule of a National Society, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of The Theosophical Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the National Society shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

If by a change made in a Rule of a National Society, any Rule of a Lodge

(Branch) which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of the National Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the Lodge (Branch) shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the National Society.

38. General Secretary

(a) Every National Society shall elect a General Secretary, who shall be the channel of official communication between the General Council and the National Society.

(b) The General Secretary shall be elected according to the procedure laid down in the rules and regulations of the National Society for a term not exceeding three years. He shall, however, be eligible for re-election for a further term or terms, if the rules of the National Society permit it.

(c) The General Secretary shall generally reside within the area of the National Society and shall not be absent from the area for any period or periods exceeding the limit prescribed by the National Society.

(d) General Secretaries, Regional Secretaries, Organizing Secretaries and other Officers, including Committee Members of National Societies and Regional Associations, shall have been members in good standing for not less than three consecutive years immediately prior to their election to the office concerned. Provided that in special circumstances, the National Council or Committee shall have power to waive the requirements of this rule.

39. Annual Report

(c) The General Secretary of each National Society, the Regional Secretaries,

Presidential Representatives and Secretaries of Lodges directly attached to Adyar shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work, along with an audited financial statement of accounts with an English translation where necessary; and at any time furnish any further information the President or the General Council may desire.

40. National Societies known as Sections

National Societies hitherto known as Sections which have been incorporated under the name of 'The...Section of The T.S.' before the year 1908, may retain that name in their respective countries, in order not to interfere with the incorporation already existing, but shall be included under the name of National Societies for all purposes in these Rules and Regulations.

41. Fees and Subscriptions

The President, Secretary and Treasurer shall together have the power to fix or vary fees and charges payable to the General Treasury by Lodges (Branches) not comprised within the limits of any National Society; for Charters of such Lodges (Branches); of Diplomas (Certificates) of Membership and for Annual subscription of Fellows of such Lodges (Branches); and in the case of Lodges (Branches) comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, Regional Association, or Presidential Agency for Charters when printed at or supplied by the Adyar Headquarters. The Secretary should inform the General Council within three months of any changes in fees and charges. The Annual Subscription of Fellows other than Fellows-at-large or members of Lodges (Branches) attached directly to Adyar shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the

bylaws or other regulations of the National Society to which such Fellows are attached, or equivalents.

42. Fellows-at-large: Fees and Subscriptions

Fellows-at-large resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a) shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the bylaws or other regulations of such National Society, but not less than the fee and subscription fixed for a Fellow-at-large not resident within the territory of a National Society.

Fellows-at-large not resident within the territory of a National Society, shall pay such Entrance Fee, Diploma Fee and Annual Subscription as shall be fixed by the President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Secretary shall inform the General Council of any changes in such fees within three months of their being made.

43. National Societies: Fees to Adyar

(a) Each National Society shall pay into the General Treasury fifteen per cent of the total amount of fees payable by members to the Section and shall remit the same to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of March of the current year, and the financial year of the Society shall close on 31st March.

Presidential Agencies: Dues

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 41(a) and Rule 42, the President at his discretion may authorize Presidential Representatives to collect dues in territories to which they have been appointed and to remit in accordance with Rule 43(a).

44. Cancellation of Charter or dissolution of National Society or Lodge

In the event of the cancellation of

any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge (Branch), the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge (Branch), granted by the President, shall *ipso facto* become forfeited or lapsed, and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas (Certificates), Seal, Records and other papers belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge (Branch) shall vest as follows:

Vesting of property of National Society or Lodge

(a) in the Society, in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) not within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) coming under Rule 31(c) except where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge (Branch) is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest (as hereinafter provided) and delivery shall be made to the President, or to his nominee on his behalf.

(b) in the National Society in which the Lodge (Branch) is situated, in the case of a Lodge (Branch) within the territory of a National Society, said Lodge (Branch) not coming under Rule 31(c), and delivery shall be made to the General Secretary of the said National Society.

No National Society or Lodge (Branch) whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall continue to use the name, motto, or seal of the Society except for the purpose of vesting in the Society or in the National Society, as the case may be, the real and personal property of such National Society or Lodge (Branch).

Revival or transfer of Charter

(c) Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter

of the National Society or the Lodge (Branch), as the case may be whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges (Branches) being not fewer than seven in number, or to other Fellows being not less than seven in number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgement shall seem best for the interest of the Society.

Provided further that in cases in which the Charter of a Lodge (Branch) had been cancelled by a National Society, Section or Regional Association under sub-rule (b) of Rule 36 and, on an appeal under sub-rule (c) of that Rule, the President quashes the order of cancellation, all property of the Lodge (Branch) shall again vest in the Lodge (Branch), and shall be deemed to have remained so vested from the date of the order of cancellation of the Charter by the National Society, Section or Regional Association.

In cases under (a) above, where such vesting in the Society is prohibited by the law of the country in which is situated the National Society or the Lodge (Branch) whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid, the property shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees appointed by the President.

To effect any transfer of property, to which the Society may become entitled under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents, or for taking any steps necessary effectually to transfer the said property to the Society.

45. Financial accounts

The financial accounts of the Society shall be audited annually by qualified Auditors who shall be appointed by the General Council at each Annual Meeting for the ensuing year.

46. Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting or Convention of the Society shall be held at such time and in such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year, but such Annual General Meeting or Convention must be held within nine months of the close of the Society's year and may be held outside India not more than once in every three years. National Societies desirous of inviting the Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation at least twelve months prior to the Convention with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

47. World Congress

Not more than once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical Society may be held at a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention.

48. Special meetings

The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of the Society at his discretion.

49. Changes in Rules and Regulations

The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or repeal the Rules and Regulations of the Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient.

50. Bylaws

The General Council may frame by-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations and may add to, alter, or repeal such bylaws, consistently with the said Rules and Regulations, as it may deem expedient.

APPENDIX

A: Biographical Data of Presidential Candidates

Each candidate shall submit to the Secretary biographical data not exceeding two hundred words.

The following information shall be included: (a) date and place of birth (b) education (c) past and present occupations (d) date of joining The Theosophical Society (e) work done for The Theosophical Society.

Other information may be included but must be factual and shall not contain statements of opinion or policy.

The biographical data for circulation shall be drawn up by the Election Committee on the basis of the information supplied by the candidates, and shall be approved by the Executive Committee (excluding any candidates for election) before being issued.

B: Voting Procedure for a Presidential Election

Note: Where the term 'General Secretary' is used, it refers also to Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary, and Presidential Representative. Where the term 'Section' is used, it refers also to National Society, Regional Association and Presidential Agency.

(a) The Section shall print the voting papers and biographical data as soon as the names of the nominees are announced.

Where practicable, in the view of the General Secretary, all the papers should be in the language(s) of the area.

It shall be the responsibility of the General Secretary, to ensure that the voting papers together with the biographical data in full are sent to each member.

Other material concerning the candidates shall not be circulated.

(b) The voting papers shall consist of two parts: the voting slip, and the letter form which the member signs and addresses to the General Secretary.

Each member shall be given two envelopes, a small one in which he will place only the voting slip and seal it, and a larger one addressed to the General Secretary, in which he will enclose the small sealed envelope and the letter form signed by him.

(c) As the papers are received, the General Secretary, with the scrutineers appointed by the Executive Committee of the Section (preferably not members of that committee), shall open the larger envelopes addressed to him to ensure the validity of the votes by checking the eligibility of the voter who has signed the letter form.

He shall then put the small sealed envelopes containing the voting slips into a sealed box.

This box shall be opened on the appointed day by the scrutineers. Voting papers received after this date shall be treated as invalid and shall be destroyed unopened.

The scrutineers shall open the small envelopes and count the votes given to each candidate (or the number of 'For' or 'Against' votes if there is but one candidate).

(d) The General Secretary shall record the result of the count on Form C which will be supplied from the Secretary's Office at the same time as the list to be voted upon.

He shall place Form C in the small

envelope labelled 'Voting Result. Section', seal the envelope and enclose it in the larger envelope addressed to the Secretary.

This must be sent by airmail or other expeditious means to reach the Secretary within fifteen weeks from the date of issue of the voting list by him.

(e) The small envelope containing the voting results of the Section shall be kept unopened in a sealed box by the Secretary until the close of voting.

It shall then be opened by the Election Committee.

The larger envelope shall be kept separately and shall not be destroyed until after the voting results are announced, and under the authority of the Executive Committee.

(f) If the voting returns have not been received by the Secretary within twelve weeks of the date of issue of the voting

list by him, he shall cable the General Secretary concerned, informing him of this fact.

The General Secretary shall immediately send to the Secretary by airmail or other expeditious means a second (duplicate) voting return in a sealed envelope marked 'Duplicate'.

Cabled results will not be accepted.

Voting results received after the closing date will be destroyed unopened by the Secretary in the presence of three members of the Executive Committee, nominated by the said Committee, and the particulars of the Section from which the voting results were received and the date on which they were received, shall be recorded in writing, and the Secretary and the three members of the Executive Committee shall affix their signatures thereto.

DIRECTORY 1992

Ex-Officio Members of the General Council

President: MRS RADHA BURNIER
Vice-President: MR SURENDRA NARAYAN
Secretary: MR PEDRO R. M. OLIVEIRA
Treasurer: MR A. SABRY

National Societies, Regional Associations and Presidential Agencies

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1947	Africa, East and Central	... Mr Kiran H. Shah	... 55A Third Avenue Parklands, P.O. Box 48507, Nairobi, Kenya
1909	Africa, South	... Mr Arthur Bunton	... P.O. Box 22023, Kloofsig, 0034
1956	Africa, West	... Mr P. B. Kwakyi	... P.O. Box 720, Accra, Ghana
1929	America, Central	... Mrs Pilar Madrigal Nieto	... Apartado 797, 1000 San José, Costa Rica
1920	Argentina	... Mrs Nora Spairani	... Pje. Florencio Balcarce 71, 1405 Buenos Aires
1990	Asia, South-East †	... Mr K. K. Tan	... 315 Outram Road, No. 14-03 Tan Boon Liat Bldg, Singapore 0316
1895	Australia	... Mrs Patricia Witts	... 4th Flr., 484 Kent St., Sydney, N.S.W. 2000
1912	Austria	... Mrs Margaret Lauppert	... Postfach 655, A—8011, Graz
1911	Belgium	... Dr H. van der Hecht	... 166 Rue de la Cambre, 1200 Brussels
1965	Bolivia †	... Mr Mario Cariaga Aramayo	... Casilla 2083, La Paz
1920	Brazil	... Mr Ulisses Riedel de Resende...	... Sociedade Teosofica no Brazil, SGAS—Quadra 603, No. 20 CEP 70.200 Brazilla (DF)
1924	Canada*	... Mr Hugh Jackson	... 158, Crescent Rd. (Apt. 311) Toronto, Ont. M4W 1V2
1920	Chile	... Mr Carlos Ramirez Lohaus	... Casilla 3603, Santiago
1937	Colombia	... Mr Antonio Martinez	... Carrera 6A, No. 56-40, Bogota 2
1905	Cuba	... Dr Lelia Fernandez Pagola	... Sociedad Teosofica, Lombillo, No. 634, Apartado de Correos, No. 6365, La Habana
1918	Denmark †	... Mr Uffe Vilstrup	... 21 Annette Vej 13, DK 2970 Horsholm
1888	England	... Mr Adam Warcup	... 50 Gloucester Place, London W1H 3HJ
1907	Finland	... Mrs Kirsti Elo	... Vironkatu 7c2, 00170, Helsinki 17
1899	France	... Mrs Françoise Caracostea	... 4 Square Rapp, 75007 Paris
1902	Germany	... Mrs Eva Maas	... Friedrich-Ebert-Anlage 9, W-6450 Hanau/M. 1
1928	Greece	... Mr P. Adjakas	... 25, Voukourestiou Street, 106 71-Athens
1921	Iceland	... Mr Einar Adalsteinsson	... Ingolfsstraeti 22, Reykjavik

1891	India	... Dr C. V. Agarwal	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010
1912	Indonesia	... Mr H.M. Soesiswo	... Jalan Oto Iskandardinata III/G. 336, Jatinegara, Jakarta 13340, Timur
1949	Ireland, Northern*	... Mrs Marie Henry	... 30 Hillsborough Drive Off Woodstock Road Belfast BT 69 DS
1919	Ireland, Rep. of †	... Mrs W. Woods	... 31 Pembroke Road, Dublin 4
1902	Italy	... Mr Edoardo Bratina	... via E. Toti 3, Post Box 1252 34131 Trieste
1919	Mexico	... Carlos Lopez Cerdan Ripoll	... Ignacio Mariscal 26 Col. Tabacalera C. P. 06470 Mexico D.F.
1912	Myanmar	... U Tin Hlaing	... No. 102, 49th Street, East Yangon
1897	Netherlands	... Dr W. H. van Vledder	... Tolstraat 154, 1074 VM Amsterdam
1896	New Zealand	... Mr W.W. Johnstone	... 18 Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland 3
1913	Norway	... Ms Marianne Chen	... PO Box 2889 Toyen, N-0608 Oslo 6
1948	Pakistan †	... Mrs Gool K. Minwalla	... 8, Mary Road, Bath Island, Karachi 75600
1924	Peru †	... Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar	... Jr. Republica de Portugal 152, Brena, Lima
1933	Philippines, The	... Mr Vicente Haó Chin Jr	... Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets Quezon City
1921	Portugal	... Dr Maria G. Nobre Santos	... Campo Martires da Pátria 69, r/c- Dto., Lisbon 1
1925	Puerto Rico	... Mr Aramis Lopez	... G.P.O. Box 1766, San Juan, 00936
1910	Scotland †	... Mrs Margaret T. Senior	... 12 Granary Park, Rafford, by Forres Morayshire, IV 36 OJZ
1921	Spain	... Dr Angel Rubio	... Pau Claris 77, 3º, 1a, 08010 Barcelona
1926	Sri Lanka	... Mr Edmund P. Silva	... 49 Peterson Lane, Colombo 6
1895	Sweden	... Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund	... Kalle Posts vag 48, S-702 29 Orebro
1910	Switzerland	... Mme Eliane Gaillard	... 17 Ch de la Côte, CH-1282 Dardagny, Genève
1886	United States of America	... Mrs Dorothy Abbenhouse	... P.O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois 60189-0270
1925	Uruguay	... Mrs Elides N. de Alvarez	... Casilla de Correos 1553, Montevideo
1953	Venezuela †	... Mr Efraim Alvarez	... Apartado 2907, Caracas
1922	Wales	... Mrs Elise T. Probert	... 25 Clarendon, Cyncoed Ave., Cyncoed, Cardiff CF2 6TJ
1925	Yugoslavia	... Mr Anton Jesse	... Kremzarjeva 18, 61000 Ljubljana

The Council of the European Federation of National Societies:

Chairman: Mr Curt Berg, Sparrisbacken 63,
S-165 61, Hässelby, Sweden

Inter-American Theosophical Federation:

President: Mr Ulisses Riedel de Resende, SGAS—Quadra 603,
No. 20, CEP 70.200, Brasilia (DF), Brazil

Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation:

President: Mr V. Haó Chin, jun, Corner P. Florentino and
Iba Streets, Quezon City, The Philippines

World Theosophical Youth Federation:

Secretary: Mrs Marina V. Lenz Cesar, Caixa Postal 10360,
Porto Alegre, 90000 Brazil

* Regional Association

† Presidential Agency

Additional Members of the General Council

MRS GOOL K. MINWALLA, 8, Mary Road, Bath Island, Karachi - 75600, Pakistan
(for 1992, 1993 and 1994)

DR HUGH SHEARMAN, 623 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3LQ UK.
(for 1990, 1991 and 1992)

MRS EMILY SELLON, 949, Forest Ave., Rye, N.Y., U.S.A. (for 1990, 1991 and 1992)

MISS JOY MILLS, Krotana 22, Ojai, California 93023 U.S.A. (for 1992, 1993 and 1994)

MRS NORMA Y. SASTRY, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600 020, India
(for 1991, 1992 and 1993)

MR S.S. VARMA, B-6/8 Vasant Vihar, New Delhi 110 057, India (for 1990, 1991 and 1992)

MR WALTER BALLESTEROS, Carrera 6, No. 56-40 Bogota-2, Colombia
(for 1992, 1993 and 1994)

MR CURT BERG, Sparrisbacken 63, S-165 61, Hässelby, Sweden (for 1990, 1991 and 1992)

MR CONRAD JAMIESON, 1/209, Manukau Road, Epsom, Auckland 3, New Zealand
(for 1992, 1993 and 1994)

MISS TRAN-THI-KIM-DIEU, 67, Rue des Pommiers, 45000 Orleans, France (for 1992, 1993 and 1994)

MR GUIDO HAAS, International Theosophical Centre, Valkeveenselaan 19, 1411 GT Naarden, The Netherlands (for 1992, 1993 and 1994)

MINUTES

Of the Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held on 25 December 1991 at Adyar

PRESENT

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President (in the chair) and proxy for Spain, Indonesia, Argentina, the Philippines and Brazil</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Vice-President and proxy for England, Sweden, Mexico, Curt Berg and Walter Ballesteros</i>
Dr Hugh Gray	<i>Secretary</i>
Mr A. Sabry	<i>Treasurer</i>
Dr C. V. Agarwal	<i>General Secretary, India</i>
Mr Paul B. Kwakyi	<i>General Secretary, West Africa</i>
Mr Kiran H. Shah	<i>General Secretary, East and Central Africa</i>
Mrs Françoise Caracostea	<i>General Secretary, France</i>
Mrs Patricia Witts	<i>General Secretary, Australia</i>
Mrs Kirsti Elo	<i>General Secretary, Finland</i>
Miss Joy Mills	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Holland, Uruguay, New Zealand, U.S.A. and Germany</i>
Mrs Norma Y. Sastry	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Cuba, Italy and Yugoslavia</i>
Mr S. S. Varma	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Portugal, South Africa and Belgium</i>
Mrs Gool K. Minwalla	<i>Additional Member</i>

Present by invitation as Observers

Mrs Ali Ritsema, Holland
Mr Ricardo Lindemann, Brazil
Mr Pedro R. M. Oliveira
Miss Tran Thi Kim Dieu

The President warmly welcomed the members of the General Council and others present, especially Mr Paul B. Kwakyi, representing for the first time the West African Section, which was chartered on 23 January 1991.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the General Council held at Varanasi on 25 and 31 December 1990, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed.

2. Matters arising out of the Minutes

(a) *Denmark*

The President reported that the appeal made by the TS in Denmark against the decision of a single Judge of the High Court had not been heard as yet. Mr Hardy Bennis had declared that the Danish Section was not chartered by the International President. Proof to the contrary, as well as copies of other documents providing evidence that the Danish Section was a part of the International Society, had been sent from Adyar for use in the court case. It is hoped that the High Court Bench will be convinced of the real position when these documents are perused. Mrs Radha Burnier, President, Mr Curt Berg, Chairman of the European Federation, and Mrs Barbro Melander, former Chairman of the European Federation, had met with Mr Uffe Vilstrup, Presidential Representative, and some others in Copenhagen, early in September 1991, to discuss how the work should proceed in Denmark, irrespective of the Appeal Court's judgement.

(b) *World Congress*

Mr Ricardo Lindemann conveyed the proposal of Mr Ulisses Riedel de Resende, Chairman of the Inter-American Federation and General Secretary of the Brazilian Section, to hold the World Congress in Brasilia from 24 to 31 July 1993. He said that Brasilia had all the facilities and that these dates were the best from the point of view of climate, and availability, at the most advantageous rates, of hotel accommodation. The dates were accepted by the Council.

3. Confirmation of Voting

(a) *Amendments to Rules and Regulations*

(i) *Rule 22*

The following amendment to Rule 22, second sentence, had been circulated for voting (changes in italics):

In case of the absence of the President *or Secretary* or where the Executive Committee finds that *either of them* is by reason of disability caused by accident, illness or otherwise, unable to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President *or Secretary as the case may be*.

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
37	—	—	—	37

Having received the required number of votes, the amendment was declared adopted.

(ii) *Rule 37*

The deletion of para five of the Rule had been proposed and circulated, the para in question reading as follows:

All Rules and amendments shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of their receipt.

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
37	—	—	—	37

Having received the required number of votes, the amendment was declared adopted.

(b) *Election of Mr Abdel-Rahim Sabry El-Hakim as Treasurer for 1992, 1993 and 1994.*

The President had nominated Mr A. Sabry as Honorary Treasurer under Rule 13 of the Rules and Regulations.

The voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
37	—	1	—	38

Mr A. Sabry was declared elected as Honorary Treasurer of the Theosophical Society for the years 1992, 1993 and 1994.

(c) *Election of seven Additional Members for the years 1992, 1993 and 1994.*

The President had nominated the following, under Rule 2(b) of the Rules and Regulations, as Additional Members of the General Council.

The result of the voting was:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
Miss Joy Mills	38	—	—	—	38
Mr Walter Ballesteros	37	—	1	—	38
Mrs Gool Minwalla	38	—	—	—	38
Mr Conrad Jamieson	37	1	—	—	38
Miss Tran Thi Kim Dieu	37	—	1	—	38
Mr Pedro R. M. Oliveira	37	—	1	—	38
Mr Guido Haas	37	—	1	—	38

All the seven persons named above were declared elected as Additional Members of the General Council for the years 1992, 1993 and 1994.

4. *Report of the Non-English Publication Fund Committee for the year ending 30 September 1991*

The report for the year ending 30 September 1991, which had been previously circulated, was presented by the Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan. Grants had been made for publishing *The Secret Doctrine* in Russian and several books in Hungarian.

The following were appointed members of the Committee for the years 1992, 1993 and 1994.

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>Chairman</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Vice-Chairman</i>
Mr Curt Berg	
Miss Joy Mills	
Mr Pedro R. M. Oliveira	
Mr Paul B. Kwakyi	

The Chairman was authorized to appoint one more member from the Indo-Pacific region if considered desirable.

5. Report of the International Finance Committee for the year ending 30 September 1991

The Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan, presented the report of the International Finance Committee for the year ending 30 September 1991. The following were appointed as members of the International Finance Committee for 1992, 1993 and 1994:

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Vice-President</i>
Mr A. Sabry	<i>Treasurer</i>
Mr S. S. Varma	<i>General Council Member</i>

6. Report of the Executive Committee for the year ending 30 September 1991

Salient points from the minutes of the Executive Committee were received. On enquiry being made, the President explained that a Master Plan for the Adyar Estate was being prepared, which includes a girls section of the HPB Hostel, residential facilities for retired workers of the TS and some staff quarters for teachers of the Olcott Memorial School.

The following were appointed as members of the Executive Committee for 1992:

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President (ex-officio)</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Vice-President</i> "
Dr Hugh Gray	<i>Secretary</i> "
Mr A. Sabry	<i>Treasurer</i> "
Mrs Norma Y. Sastry	<i>General Council Member</i>
Mr S. S. Varma	" " "
Mr K. Visvanathan	
Mr D. K. Govindaraj	

7. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 1991

The Treasurer's report and accounts for the period ending 31 March 1991, which had been previously circulated, were considered in detail. It was noted that the financial position of the Society is satisfactory. The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

8. Budget for the year ending 31 March 1993

The budget for the year ending 31 March 1993, which had been previously circulated, was considered and unanimously adopted.

9. Auditors for the year ending 31 March 1993

Messrs Fraser and Ross were appointed as auditors of the Theosophical Society for the year ending 31 March 1993 on the same terms and conditions as before.

The Council meeting was adjourned to 8 a.m. on 1 January 1992.

MINUTES

Of the Adjourned Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held at Adyar on 1 January 1992

PRESENT

All the Council members present at the meeting held on 25 December 1991 with the exception of Mrs Kirsti Elo and the addition of Mr Pedro R. M. Oliveira and Miss Tran Thi Kim Dieu, who took their places as members, and not as observers.

10. Proposal of the General Secretary for New Zealand

Mr W. W. Johnstone, General Secretary for New Zealand, had proposed that Rule 29(e) be deleted from the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society. This proposal had been circulated.

The President explained as a background that on 27 December 1982 the General Council had considered various proposals made by the European Federation for safeguarding Lodges and Sections, including the provision of qualifications for voting and holding office. After discussion the General Council decided that the proposals needed to be examined further. The President and Vice-President with the help of any others they wished to co-opt were requested to propose suitable amendments to the Rules and Regulations of the Society and present them to the General Council. Accordingly after consultation and advice from Mr C. R. N. Swamy, Additional Member and former Treasurer, Miss Joy Mills, Additional Member, and Madame Françoise Caracostea, General Secretary for France, proposals to amend some rules were circulated to members of the General Council for their comments, including an amendment to Rule 29. Only a few members had sent their comments and out of these only about half a dozen had expressed disagreement.

On 24 December 1983, the General Council modified the proposed amendment to Rule 29 and this was circulated to the General Council members for voting. Out of 42 votes cast, 33 were in favour of the amendment; therefore it was declared adopted and is incorporated in the rules now as Rule 29(e). After the circulation of the proposal by the General Secretary of the New Zealand Section, along with the notice and agenda for the Council meeting for 1991, the Belgian General Secretary wrote in support of the retention of Rule 29(e), while the Dutch and American General Secretaries indicated they were in favour of Mr Johnstone's proposal. These letters were presented to the Council.

After receiving the above information from the President, the members present discussed the matter at length. Dr. C. V. Agarwal, General Secretary for India, and Madame Françoise Caracostea, General Secretary for France, spoke in favour of retaining Rule 29(e) as there is serious risk of valuable properties going out of the control of the TS through voting by self-interested persons who join the TS precisely for the purpose

of acquiring control of property. Miss Joy Mills said that the civil code in certain countries and States does not permit restriction of voting rights. Mr K. H. Shah, General Secretary for East and Central Africa, pointed out that provision already existed for waiver in the case of newly formed lodges or 'in other special circumstances'.

After discussion, the Council decided that the President and Vice-President should clarify the words 'in other special circumstances', by inserting a clause to indicate that in countries where the civil code or corporate law prohibits voting restrictions, the General Secretary is empowered to grant waiver. Further, a sentence is to be added recommending that particularly in such cases, when new members have voting power, Sections should provide alternative safeguards. After rewording Rule 29(e) as advised by the Council, the President was asked to circulate it, as proposed to be amended, for voting.

11. Discussion on the Work around the World

(a) *Sections without Minimum Requirements*

There was a discussion about membership in various Sections, particularly those in which the total number of members and lodges is below the minimum required under Rule 36(d). This includes Chile, Myanmar (Burma), Wales and Yugoslavia. The political conditions in Myanmar are such that there is little possibility of contact. It is reported by the Vice-President of the Inter-American Federation that in Chile there is some improvement.

In Wales the position has remained the same for many years. The General Council decided that Wales should be offered the alternative of joining the English Section or becoming a Presidential Agency.

In Yugoslavia there are three lodges, all in Slovenia, and one group in Zagreb. The group in Zagreb had to stop work as conflict spread. It is to be seen whether the State will survive in its present form, before taking a decision.

In other countries like Czechoslovakia also, racial tensions are surfacing, and the TS work in these countries could be affected by political changes.

(b) *Greece*

It was reported that there was still no contact with the Greek Section. They have not sent an annual report or any particulars of their activities, membership, etc. The Chairman of the European Federation, Mr Curt Berg, had intended to send someone to the country to find out what was happening but he had not been able to do so. More recently, Mr Guido Haas, Treasurer of the European Federation, had agreed to investigate and report.

(c) *Canada*

The Council took cognisance of the recent amendments to the by-laws of the TS in Canada, which had become a Corporation in 1976 under the laws governing Canadian business corporations. By virtue of the amendments made in 1991 by consent of the

required majority, all references to the International Society have been eliminated. However, the Section is advertising in *Quest* magazine, published by the TS in America, in such a way as to suggest that the TS in Canada still functions within the framework of the Rules and Regulations of the International Society.

After discussion of the different aspects of the question, the General Council unanimously decided that inasmuch as all references to the Parent Society have been removed from the by-laws of the TS in Canada, it can no longer be considered a part of the International Society, and a letter to that effect is to be sent to Mr Stan Treloar. Efforts may be made to encourage the growth of the Canadian Federation.

(d) *Russia*

Several members asked for clarification about the 'TS in Russia'. The President replied that it was established by persons who had not become members of the Society, and its 'lodges' had not been chartered by the President. The 'TS in Russia' was registered with some authorities in Moscow without the knowledge of the International Society. It is reported that they adopted the rules of the TS in Russia before the revolution, but no copy of the document registered has been supplied to the International Headquarters.

The officers of the 'TS in Russia' do not seem to understand the character of the TS. For example, its President, Mr Popov, had sent a letter in June 1991 to Adyar, which indicates a mixing of the Roerich Foundation with the TS. He had also given 'life membership' to persons of his choice. One of the members of the Council mentioned that Mr Popov seems to be in contact with the U.L.T. in New York, since the U.L.T. in that city has extensive contact with the Roerich Museum. There also appear to be contacts in Russia through the Theosophical Society with its headquarters at Pasadena, California. All this can create confusion.

Therefore it was the view of the Council that we must proceed prudently and cautiously as it will be very difficult to remedy the situation later on. Most important of all is to make authentic theosophical literature available in the Russian language. Besides *The Secret Doctrine* there should be some smaller books in circulation.

12. Any other business

(a) *Rule 44*

The Vice-President informed the Council that he has been examining the Rules of the Sections and some of the General Secretaries seem to have difficulty in understanding Rule 44 which deals with the vesting of property in the International Society in the case of a National Society being dissolved. General Secretaries must appreciate the fact that where the law of a country prohibits such vesting under Rule 44(c), para 3, the property shall vest in a local trustee or trustees. The Council concurred that when a Section or National Society is dissolved or in the event of cancellation of the Charter for any reason, the property of the Section or National Society should remain in theosophical hands and therefore it is important that General Secretaries should take note of the provision in Rule 44(c), para 3, and incorporate in the Section's Rules a corresponding provision for vesting property in a local trustee or trustees, who will safeguard the Society's interests in that country till such time as the Section is revived or its Charter restored.

(b) *Members at large*

Miss Joy Mills brought up the question of certain Sections having an increasing number of members at large. No doubt those who are interested in Theosophy and living in isolated places had to be admitted as members at large, but in addition there are many admitted in this category in localities where lodges or study centres exist. The General Secretary of the Indian Section said that in his Section new members were advised to join lodges unless there were good reasons for not doing so. It is only by working with others that the nucleus of universal brotherhood could be built. It was also pointed out by others that the attitude of considering relative 'advantages' of being either a lodge member or a member at large should not be encouraged. We join the Society to serve and help, not to gain advantages.

The consensus of the Council was that as far as possible, members should be encouraged to work in the lodges and not as isolated individuals or in groups where they take no responsibility for the TS work as a whole.

(c) *T.P.H. in Philippines*

Mr Vicente Hao Chin, General Secretary of the Philippine Section, had enquired whether they could establish a Theosophical Publishing House in Manila. The Council decided that they could do so provided that they did not publish any theosophical works without due consultation with the other English-language T.P.H.s in Adyar, London and Wheaton. These T.P.H.s work in mutual cooperation, taking care not to impinge on each other's interests and copyright agreements, and T.P.H. in Manila should act in the same manner.

(b) Mr. McArthur at large
Mr. J. C. Mills brought up the question of certain sections having an unusual number of members at large. He doubts that they are interested in the society and having isolated places had to be admitted as members at large. In addition there are many isolated in the category in localities where lodges or study centers exist. The Council is in the Indian Section and that in his opinion now members were advised to join lodges unless there were good reasons for not doing so. It is only by working with the lodge that the number of members could be built. It was also pointed out by the Council that the number of contributing members (members) of being under a lodge member is a member at large should not be encouraged. We join the society to serve and help it to gain an insight.

The Council members of the Council was that as far as possible members should be encouraged to work in the lodge and not as isolated individuals in groups where they are not responsible for the work as a whole.

(c) Mr. W. H. McArthur
Mr. V. G. McArthur, Chairman of the Philippine Section, had explained that they had established a Philippine Study Center in Manila. The Council decided that they could do no more than to help him and could not have any further action except the cooperation with the other Philippine Section. T. H. McArthur had in the Council. These T. H. were in Manila, cooperation, and for to improve on each other's history and copyright materials, and T. H. in Manila should be in the same manner.

The Council decided that the Philippine Study Center should be established in Manila and that the Council should support it in every way possible.

Resolved that the Council should support the Philippine Study Center in Manila.

The Council also decided that the Council should support the Philippine Study Center in Manila in every way possible.

